



Magazine/Q1

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all these years

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is not
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SHANGHAI, China—It's
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"Out of the Fortress" by
Qian Fuzhang showed up
on tens of thousands of
mobile telephone screens
on Friday. It is a

SOON/A22



Senate wants to limit local, foreign borrowings

WITH the country's debts already at alarming
levels, the Senate has revived calls for the en-
actment of a measure imposing a limit on do-
mestic and foreign borrowings as part of the
drastic belt-tightening measures the govern-
ment is implementing to curb the country's
ballooning budget deficit.

Senate President Franklin Drilon told a
SENATE/A21

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P18

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Solons to scrap all pork

House leaders say they're taking 'moral, political high ground'

By Cynthia D. Balana

SPEAKER Jose de Venecia and senior party leaders at the House of Representatives have agreed to abolish altogether the pork barrel system, starting with the proposed 2005 national budget.

They also decided to adopt "line-item budgeting" which they said would promote full disclosure of the nature and amounts of executive and congressional allocations as well as the identification of projects. This will mean that every single project and its corresponding funding will be identified to the last peso and centavo in the national budget.

The twin decisions were reached during a closed-door all-party caucus called last Tuesday by De Venecia, the president of the ruling Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats, which was attended by representatives of all eight political parties represented in the House.

De Venecia released the results of the caucus in a statement yesterday. He said House legislators were "taking the moral and political high ground" in adopting the "unprecedented twin decisions" in order to help President Macapagal-Arroyo solve the fiscal crisis.

"The issue of lack of transparency and integrity in the budgetary process relative to the expenditures for the so-called pork barrel has been overblown and gone on too long," said De Venecia, even as he called on the President and the Senate to give up their pork barrel allocations as well.

Legislators from both chambers of Congress have been in the thick of discussions over how to deal with the growing public clamor for them to heed a request from the President to slash their pork barrel allocations for 2005 by 40 percent in view of the fiscal constraints being faced by the national government.

Some senators and congressmen were for giving up their pork altogether while others said they would give up only part of it. Still others said they would cut their pork only if the President gave up hers.

Last week, bipartisan support for the total abolition of the pork barrel system began developing in the House. Opposition Rep. Agapito Aquino (L.D. Makati) started a signature campaign in the House for the abolition of the pork barrel.

Aquino, who also attended the Tuesday caucus, said 25 House members had already signed a letter to De Venecia that

HOUSE/A8



BRUNEI SMILES

President Macapagal-Arroyo and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo are all smiles as they exchange pleasantries with newlywed royals Al-Muhtadee Billah Bolkiah and Sarah Salleh before the wedding banquet Friday at the royal palace. The groom is heir to the Brunei throne. The First Couple, who were wedding sponsors, returned to Manila yesterday.

MALACANANG/PCPO

HEROES FOR HEALTH

Five doctors who followed their dreams

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

THEY saw injustice and tried to stop it. Saw need and tried to fill it. Saw wrong and tried to right it.

With their efforts, these five Filipino medical practitioners hailed as Heroes for Health by pharmaceutical firm Pfizer Inc. have made the country a better

place.

Dr. Kadil Jojo M. Sinolinding Jr. of North Cotabato was still in medical school in Iloilo City when he witnessed his grandmother lose her sight in one eye to glaucoma, because the family could not afford the needed surgery.

He managed to save 30 percent of the vision of his grandmother's other eye

when he became an ophthalmologist, and for that she died happy.

He vowed to use his expertise to prevent other people from losing their sight because of poverty.

Sinolinding eventually rejected lucrative offers to set up a city practice. He was bent on serving his people.

"I realized that the problem was se-

vere and Muslim Mindanao had a great need," he said. "We do not have many ophthalmologists, there is hardly any equipment, and no money. Other provinces would have only one or two things lacking."

In 1998, Sinolinding organized the Vision 20/20 Cataract Charities Pro-

FIVE/A21



FLOWERS hang from the fence surrounding the gaping hole where once stood the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. The third anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks brought to the fore the problem of the children orphaned by the tragedy.

REUTERS

Troubled children of 9/11: Legacy of loss

NEW YORK—The bone brought sad finality to everyone but Brendan Fitzpatrick.

It was proof that his father had died on Sept. 11, 2001. But for Brendan, who is 5, the news that a piece of Thomas Fitzpatrick's humerus had been recovered was vexing, at best. "Can we get all the pieces and put them together?" he recently asked his mother at their home in Tuckahoe, New York. "So he could be alive?"

In Harlem, a different puzzle unfolded for Samuel Fields. He was 10 when the towers collapsed, and knew his father was gone. But he could not cry. He jumped off the steep rocks in Central Park, punched a classmate and, the following summer, wound up in jail for pelting cars with stones. It was only then, after his mother yelled, "Would your father want this?" that the first tears fell.

Brendan Fitzpatrick and Samuel Fields belong to the vast tribe of young children who lost parents on Sept. 11—an estimated 3,000 boys and girls who are all working through their own

painful puzzles of bewilderment and sorrow. From the start, there were grim forecasts for this group and rumors: There would be scores of orphans, permanent trauma, a generation forever marred. Charitable foundations were set up, scholarships created.

With four major studies under way, it is too soon to know the full effect of Sept. 11 on its legacy of bereaved children. Some of the children appear quite resilient, while others are visibly struggling.

But patterns have surfaced, ranging from symptoms of anxiety and depression to violent outbursts and social withdrawal. Those in treatment are faring better, though many have avoided it. Teenagers, in the age-old effort to fit in, are most prone to keeping quiet about the horrific way their parents died.

Year after year, they are confronted with a ceaseless ambush of reminders—at the movies, in classroom banter, on a poster at the supermarket. To the children, these are not the

TROUBLED/A21

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Western section of Central Luzon will experience scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will be cloudy skies and partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALLAGHER, PDR RESEARCH/09/12/04

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Second FRONT PAGE

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Metro Manila Partly Cloudy
Baguio Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay Cloudy with Rains
Laoag Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone Partly Cloudy
Tegaytay Partly Cloudy
Lagaytay Partly Cloudy
Salayan Partly Cloudy

Palawan Partly Cloudy
Cebu Partly Cloudy
Zamboanga Partly Cloudy
Davao Partly Cloudy
Bacolod Partly Cloudy
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US experts help RP stamp out terror

By Fe Zamora

EXPERTS from the United States are helping the Philippine military formulate an antiterrorism defense framework that would help stamp out the country's image as a terrorist haven, Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz said yesterday.

Cooperation in fighting terror has gained impetus following Thursday's lethal bombing of the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, which cast dark clouds on the commemoration by the United States and its allies of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks against US landmarks.

Militant groups in Manila and Baguio City marked the day with protest marches to denounce the US military presence in Iraq, but there was no violence.

Cruz said in an interview with the INQUIRER that antiterrorism would be a pillar in the framework of the Philippine Defense

Reform program and would be similar to programs used in Thailand, South Korea and Romania.

He said the presence of the US experts should also be seen as proof that relations between the two allies had not been impaired by the early withdrawal of Philippine troops from Iraq, where US-led forces are waging a war against Iraqi militants.

AFP will have final say

Cruz said the US "consultants" were here "to lend their experience" and were working with the office of Defense Undersecretary Ernesto Carolina, a retired general in charge

of instituting defense reforms.

"They (consultants) are giving us the templates, and these are being adapted to Philippine conditions," Cruz told the INQUIRER.

"At the end of the day, it will be the Armed Forces that will decide," he said.

Cruz said he had no qualms about asking for help from Western allies, including the United States, on ways to rid the Philippines of its image as a "terrorist haven."

'Vigilance more than ever'

President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday said her government would not be cowed by terrorists.

"We will not let them taunt us or intimidate us," she said in a statement.

"We are going after the remaining leaders and operatives and dismantling their networks in Southeast Asia through intensified and continuous cooperation among our

neighbors and allies," she said.

Just after the Jakarta bombing by suspected Jemaah Islamiyah militants, Philippine military and police forces raised their alert levels and tightened security around key embassies and other potential targets.

GMA must apologize

Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo said Philippine embassies abroad had also been asked to "take all necessary precautions for its personnel and premises against possible terrorist attacks."

"More than ever, we need the vigilance of every Filipino to preempt any strikes and to intercept any remaining terrorist cells that may be planning mayhem," Ms Arroyo said.

She said the remaining terrorist cells in the country had been "largely decimated with the capture of JI leaders and the constrict

of their activities."

In a protest march marking the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks on the United States, members of militant groups in Baguio City urged Ms Arroyo to apologize to the Iraqi people for her government's support of the US-led invasion of Iraq.

Carrying an effigy of Uncle Sam straddling a globe, activists of the Cordillera Peoples Alliance (CPA) said an apology by Ms Arroyo could shield overseas Filipino workers from attacks.

Jeanette Galvez, secretary general of Tongtongan ti Umili, a group affiliated with the CPA, said antiwar advocates had not forgiven Ms Arroyo despite her decision to pull Filipino troops out of Iraq.

Flora Belinan, an official of the Migrant party-list group, said an apology from the Philippine government should convince Islamic extremists that overseas Filipino workers were not their enemies.

In Metro Manila, the Sept. 11 anniversary passed without incident.

Shopping malls were open, trains ran smoothly, and families strolled along the Baywalk in Manila. But police were also very visible in the city.

Peaceful protest

Militant groups marched along T.M. Kalaw Street to demand the US withdraw its troops from Iraq but the protest was peaceful.

The group Peace Camp (Campaign for Peace and Social Justice) mourned the loss of lives during the World Trade Center attacks and called for justice for the victims.

The group also denounced the US invasion of Iraq as a bigger act of terrorism. With reports from Gil C. Cabacungan Jr., Leila B. Salaverria, Vincent Cabresia, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

City governments agree to give up part of their IRA

By Michelle V. Remo, Business and Carla P. Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau

CITY governments have agreed to give up a portion of their budgets to help alleviate the country's overwhelming fiscal problem.

After earlier opposing proposed cuts to the budgets of local government units (LGUs), the League of Cities, composed of 115 city governments nationwide, passed a resolution on Friday giving up half of their share in the P10-billion increase in the internal revenue allotment (IRA) approved by Congress for 2005.

"We want to show that we are supportive of the measures taken by President Macapagal-Arroyo to

solve the fiscal situation. This is our contribution to the country's recovery efforts," said Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas, who is also president of the League of Cities.

23 percent share

According to the General Appropriations Act approved by Congress for 2005, city governments are entitled to 23 percent of the IRA for local governments. Provincial governments have a 23 percent share, while municipalities and barangays have a 34 percent and 20 percent share, respectively.

The 2005 IRA approved by Congress amounts to P151 billion, or P10 billion higher than the IRA for 2003 and 2004 of P141 billion. With its 23 percent share, city gov-

ernments were to get P2.3 billion from the additional P10-billion budget for LGUs.

With the resolution passed by the League of Cities, city governments agreed to get only half of the P2.3 billion increase or P1.15 billion.

Treñas said that aside from giving up half of their share, the League of Cities would also try to convince other LGUs, like members of the Union of Local Authorities in the Philippines (Ulap) to do the same.

Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin said that although the national government was hoping that the LGUs would forego the whole P10-billion increase in their IRA—meaning they would have the 2004 IRA of P141 billion retained for 2005—the P5-billion

cut was a welcome proposal.

"We initially wished for more, but we are grateful for the move to give up a portion of their share," Boncodin said.

Senate President Franklin Drilon, however, said the IRA share of LGUs could not be reduced unless the President declared a state of unmanageable budget deficit.

Budget deficit

"I don't think she has any plans (to make such a declaration) at this point. Measures are being undertaken in order that the budget deficit could be managed," he said.

The mayors of Negros Occidental earlier sent resolutions to the President and to Congress opposing the proposed reduction of the

IRA of LGUs as part of the government's austerity measures.

Manapla Mayor Manuel Escalante III, chair of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines-Negros Occidental chapter, said that if LGUs would be required to help solve the current fiscal crisis, it should not be at the expense of needed services in the towns.

The Negros Association of Chief Executives Inc. said that reducing the IRA would impair the delivery of basic services.

The Municipal Mayors League of the Philippines in Negros Oriental also objected to a proposal by Albay Rep. Joey Salceda to cut the LGUs' IRA share by P20 billion in next year's budget.

In a resolution passed Wednesday,

the mayors assailed the national officials of their league for approving a resolution favoring a cut in their IRA without their consent.

Proposed cuts

The proposed cuts, the Negros Oriental mayors said, would greatly jeopardize existing programs and undermine the operations of LGUs that are depending solely on their IRA share.

Sen. Aquilino Pimentel also called on local executives in Negros Oriental to oppose the IRA cuts of LGUs because it would financially devastate the country's 79 provinces, 115 cities, 1,495 municipalities and 41,932 barangays.

With reports from Alex Pal and Jani Arnaiz, PDI Visayas Bureau



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Examinations

MANILA
Sept. 19, Oct. 24 and Nov. 28, 2004
Sundays – 08:00 to 11:30 AM / 01:00 to 04:30 PM

PROVINCIAL

Oct. 09 and 16 / Nov. 06, 13 and 20, 2004
Saturdays – 08:00 to 11:30 AM

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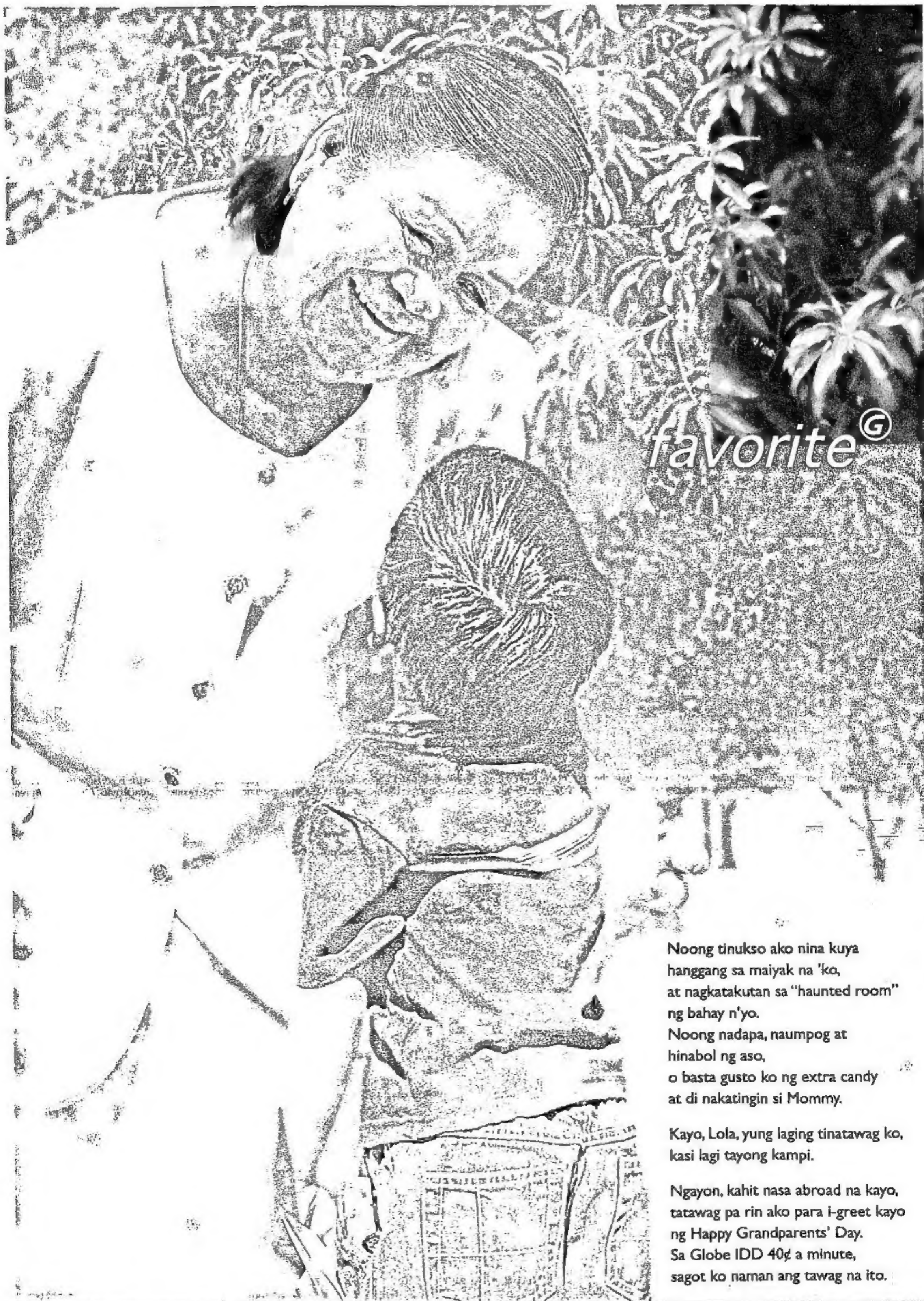
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Date	Provincial Testing Center
Oct. 09, 2004	Ateneo de Zamboanga, Zamboanga City St. Paul College, Vigan
Oct. 16, 2004	T. del Rosario College, Balanga, Bataan
Nov. 06, 2004	Holy Spirit Academy Laoag, Ilocos Norte Aquinas University, Legaspi City St. Paul University, Tuguegarao City
Nov. 13, 2004	San Pedro College, Davao City St. Scholastica's Academy, Bacolod City Holy Trinity College, Palawan University of La Salette, Santiago City Don Bosco Technical Institute, Tarlac
Nov. 20, 2004	Angelicum School, Iloilo City Notre Dame of Colabato, Colabato City Sacred Heart School, Tacloban City Dominican School, Dagupan City Phil. Statesman College, Nueva Ecija
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hinabol ng aso,
o basta gusto ko ng extra candy
at di nakatingin si Mommy.

Kayo, Lola, yung laging tinatawag ko,
kasi lagi tayong kampi.

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2004 Lancer 1.6 GLX MT	698,000	84,700	29,252	20,840	16,713	14,657	13,294
2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	90,700	31,767	22,632	18,149	15,917	14,437
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	95,700	35,120	25,020	20,065	17,597	15,961
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel MT	675,000	81,250	28,289	20,154	16,162	14,174	12,856
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas MT	700,000	85,000	29,336	20,908	16,760	14,699	13,332
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel MT	740,000	88,000	31,013	22,894	17,718	15,539	14,094
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas MT	795,000	95,250	33,316	23,737	19,035	16,694	15,142
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel MT	805,000	96,750	33,737	24,035	19,275	16,904	15,332
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	848,000	107,200	35,539	25,319	20,304	17,807	16,151
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2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	980,000	127,000	41,071	29,260	23,465	20,579	18,665
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T	1,180,000	87,000	48,511	34,561	27,715	24,307	22,254
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2004 Lancer 1.6 GLS CVT	758,000	341,000	17,619	12,552	10,066	8,828	8,243
2004 Lancer 1.6 MX CVT	838,000	369,000	19,478	13,877	11,128	9,760	9,113
2004 Adventure GL 2.5 Diesel MT	675,000	337,500	15,701	11,186	8,970	7,867	7,123
2004 Adventure GLX 2.0 Gas MT	700,000	350,000	16,317	11,625	9,323	8,176	7,403
2004 Adventure GLX 2.5 Diesel MT	740,000	337,000	17,200	12,254	9,827	8,618	8,047
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas MT	795,000	377,500	18,479	13,165	10,557	9,259	8,645
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.5 Diesel MT	805,000	382,500	18,711	13,330	10,690	9,375	8,754
2004 Adventure GLS Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	848,000	424,000	19,966	14,224	11,407	10,004	9,051
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.5 Diesel MT	935,000	447,500	21,733	15,483	12,416	10,889	10,187
2004 Adventure Grand Sport 2.0 Gas A/T	980,000	490,000	23,220	16,543	13,266	11,635	10,540
2004 Space Gear 2.4 Gas A/T	1,180,000	590,000	24,583	17,319	13,889	12,181	11,114
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Palace, militants, solons reject tax on OFWs

By Gil C. Cabacungan, Jr.,
Martin P. Marfil
and Michael Lim Ubac

MALACANANG, militant
groups and legislators yester-

day rejected proposals to tax the \$8 billion annual remittances of overseas Filipino workers (OFW) whose earnings have kept the economy afloat, particularly after the 1997

Asian currency crisis.

"As of our last meeting, we are only looking at or discussing about eight priority tax measures and this (the OFW tax) is not one of them," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye in an interview over RMN radio.

Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, a member of the economic managers group, warned that taxing OFW remittances would be no different from taxing exports and both would have dire consequences on the economy.

"OFWs are constructive exports because it makes up for our limited attraction as an investment site," Salceda said. "Without their remittances, the fiscal crisis would have long exploded into a fiscal big bang."

"This trial balloon will not even fly, we have to shoot it on

the ground," he added.

Salceda said the government may be seeking to raise at least P8 billion by taxing their remittances but the move would jeopardize \$8 billion in inflows from the OFWs.

Fallback measure

Earlier, Finance Secretary Juanita Amatoang proposed the restoration of the gross income tax on OFWs as a fallback revenue measure should Congress fail to pass the President's eight priority revenue-enhancement measures that would raise an additional P80 billion in revenues.

These include the P2 per liter hike in excise tax on oil products; indexation of taxes on cigarettes and alcohol; revising the value-added tax; shift from net to gross income taxation; a tax amnesty; an attrition system for govern-

ment agencies; imposition of franchise tax telecommunication firms, and rationalization of fiscal incentives.

The OFWs used to pay a gross income tax of 2 percent on their earnings but this was discontinued in 1997 when the comprehensive tax reform program was implemented.

The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration and militant groups also warned against taxing OFWs.

Newly designated OWWA Administrator Mariano Roque said the government should first discuss the plan with OFW leaders and communities before reimposing the gross income tax on OFWs.

"We expect resistance because they (OFWs) were exempted then suddenly, we'd be withdrawing that benefit. Secondly, if government pushes through with the

plan, the administration of collection will be (a big burden)," Roque said in a telephone interview.

He pointed out that the proposal to tax OFWs could become a "problem" as it would entail poring over millions of contracts to determine how much each individual worker should be taxed.

Massive protests

The militant group Migrant said all tax proposals by the administration would be met with massive protests by workers here and abroad.

"Excuse me, but are OFWs to blame for the country's fiscal crisis? Secretary Amatoang is ignoring many realities that include the overseas Filipino sector's gargantuan efforts to help keep the floundering economy afloat," Connie Bragas-Regalado, Migrant chair, said.

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Philippine Writers and Their Heroes

The Galing Pilipino Movement (GPM) announced recently the winners of its "The Hero(es) of My Generation" student essay writing contest. Second runner-up Jalyn Balubal of Technological Institute of the Philippines (third from right) receives a plaque and a cash prize from Dr. Nicanor Tiongson, UP MassCom dean and chair of the board of judges, and GPM president Ely de Guzman, for her essay entitled "Nick, the Nationalist." Witnessing the awarding are sponsors Maribel Prieto (right), chair of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, GPM trustee Ramon Garcia and Chowking HRD director Angel Santiago.

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Idol Worship

Jasmine Trias chooses SMART

When 17-year old Jasmine Trias first graced our TV screens on "American Idol", it was hard not to notice her. She had a flower in her hair. She had a glowing smile that didn't want to go away. And of course, there was that voice. A voice that would catapult her from the shores of Hawaii all the way to Hollywood as one of the top 3 contestants in the popular talent search. To us Filipinos, our amazement with the bubbly lass was further piqued when we found out she was actually a Filipina who grew up in America. As the competition got tougher, we rooted for Jasmine week after week, praying for a victory for one of our own. She confessed that the pressure of carrying the flag for both Hawaii and the Philippines was heavy and that, "the competition became very intense each time I advanced."

Though America and the world have laid claim to Jasmine, her roots are firmly planted in Philippines. "A lot of culture has been passed on to me because my family has raised me around the Filipino language, Filipino food, and the overall culture," she says. Jasmine proudly announces that "I consider myself a typical Filipina." In fact, the town of General Trias in Cavite is named after a cousin of her lolo. To this day, Jasmine has grandaunts, granduncles and other relatives who live in Cavite, all of them bursting with pride as she became a star via "American Idol". She's very excited to meet them, and that's going to happen sooner than you may think. "I'll be there in October!" she promises us.

Jasmine stands as a shining beacon of a Filipina-American who has achieved success in another land. Much as Jasmine

has served as an inspiration to Filipinos here and abroad, thousands of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) have become "new heroes" for the new millennium. By seeking job opportunities in foreign countries in order to provide for their families, OFWs inspire not just the families they left behind, but every single Filipino as well. SMART pays tribute to these OFW families with the Pamilyang Pinoy program. SMART subscribers who register to Pamilyang Pinoy and actively use IDD are entitled to free rebates. By keying in REG <name> <address> and sending to 433, OFW families can become members of Pamilyang Pinoy and enjoy these rebates. The more often they use SMART IDD, the higher their rebates are. In addition, SMART Pamilyang Pinoy has gone around the country to seek out these OFW families and have treated them to free gifts and even free variety shows. Just one of the ways SMART thanks both the OFWs and their families for their noble sacrifices for one another. The Pamilyang Pinoy program has only begun its trek across the archipelago, and it might just be heading your way before long!

Jasmine Trias has certainly come a long way. Her parents traveled to Hawaii seeking better opportunities for her and her siblings. "American Idol" has, in Jasmine's own words, "changed my life completely. I'm living my dream." As Jasmine lives out her dream, we're proud to call this Filipina, one of our very own. In perfect Filipino, Jasmine has this message for all of us who cheered for her and continue to look up to her: "Maraming, maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat!"



Fil-American finalist in "American Idol" Jasmine Trias

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- Nov. 20 SM City Bicutan Entertainment Plaza Bldg. A
- Nov. 27 Pasay City Sports Complex
- Dec. 4 Farmers Plaza Entertainment Plaza
- Dec. 11 SM City Manila Entertainment Plaza



House leaders claim solons to scrap all pork

from page A1

he had drafted declaring the signatories' agreement to have the 2005 pork barrel allocation of the House totally abolished.

Noel Albano, the House deputy director general for public affairs, said the decision to abolish the pork barrel had been taken even before Aquino sent his letter to De Venecia.

De Venecia said he had discussed the proposal to abolish the pork barrel system with Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin and she did not pose any objections.

The pork barrel is money allocated in the annual budget by the national government to each legislator for projects of their choosing to ingratiate themselves with their constituents.

Each House member receives P65 million in pork barrel funds, officially called the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF), while each senator gets P200 million.

According to De Venecia, projects in the legislators' constituencies would now be chosen according to the priorities set by the President in her 10-point social and economic program.

Still solons' choice

Albano explained that House representatives would still be allowed to identify development projects in their districts but they would now have to justify their choices and the amounts to be allocated for each project during the congressional budget hearings.

House leaders will be convening an all-members caucus next week to present the two agreed-on proposals for plenary approval.

De Venecia expressed confidence that the twin proposals would be approved by all the 236 House members when they are presented for consideration next week.

Some of the House leaders present at the caucus included Deputy Speakers Benigno Aquino III (Luzon, Tarlac), Emilio Espinosa Jr. (NPC, Masbate), Gerry Salapuddin (Lakas, Basilan), and Raul del Mar (Lakas, Cebu City); Rolando Andaya Jr. (Luzon, Camarines Sur), chair of the House committee on appropriations, and Robert "Ace" Barbers (Lakas, Surigao del Norte), the majority spokesperson.

Other House members who attended the caucus included Minority Leader Francis Escudero (NPC, Sorsogon), Teodoro Locsin (PDP-Laban, Makati), Cynthia Villar (NP, Parañaque), Edcel Lagman (Aksyon Demokratiko, Albay), and party-list representatives Satur Ocampo (Bayan Muna), Etta Rosales (Akabayon), Ernie Pablo (Apec) and Rene Velarde (Buhay).

Not widely accepted

But indicating that total abolition was by no means widely accepted, three majority House members from Bohol were divided in their reaction to Aquino's signature campaign.

Rep. Eladio Jala of Bohol's third district said that while he would support the abolition of the pork barrel, he would not sign the Aquino letter as it did not provide a system to address the needs of the countryside like classrooms, waterworks, farm-to-market roads, electrification and others.

A third-term congressman who chairs the House committee on government enterprises and privatization, Jala said that "almost all the projects" in the barangays were funded by the pork barrel.

Rep. Roberto Cajés of Bohol's second district said he would support the move for all congressmen, senators and the President to waive their pork

Metrobank gives P10M to Bayanihan Fund

THE METROBANK Group, with Toyota Motor Phil. Inc. and Mirant Global, has donated P10 million to the Bayanihan Fund.

In a letter to President Macapagal-Arroyo dated Sept. 10, Metrobank chair George S.K. Ty said: "This donation will hopefully send a strong signal to the private sector that will snowball into more actualized corporate contributions to the fund."

The donation also marked the entry of foreign-based corporations to the fund which is intended to help the country weather the fiscal crisis.

Ty said Metrobank would also put up donation boxes in all its offices and branches for its employees and clients who may want to contribute to the fund.

President Arroyo recently ex-

pressed her appreciation for the "renewed surge of business confidence, an aggressive push for investments, diplomatic offensives and good governance that will all bear upon the crisis—even as we share the greater sacrifices in the months to come."

Basic services

But he warned that a total moratorium on pork barrel-funded projects nationwide "even for one year will adversely affect basic services and economic growth."

Rep. Edgar Chatto of the first district said he had no problem with the abolition of the pork barrel provided that clear mechanisms would be put in place to answer his constituents' need for water, school buildings and other projects.

In separate public forums in Negros Occidental on Friday, Senate President Franklin Drilon and Sen. Manuel Villar expressed differing views on what to do about the pork barrel.

Villar, who chairs the Senate finance committee, said cutting the pork barrel funds would not make a dent on the country's fiscal crisis.

What is needed is to put a stop to the financial bleeding of the govern-



TY

ment-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) and improve tax collection, said Villar, who addressed a training seminar for 350 provincial government scholars in Bacolod City.

Accountable

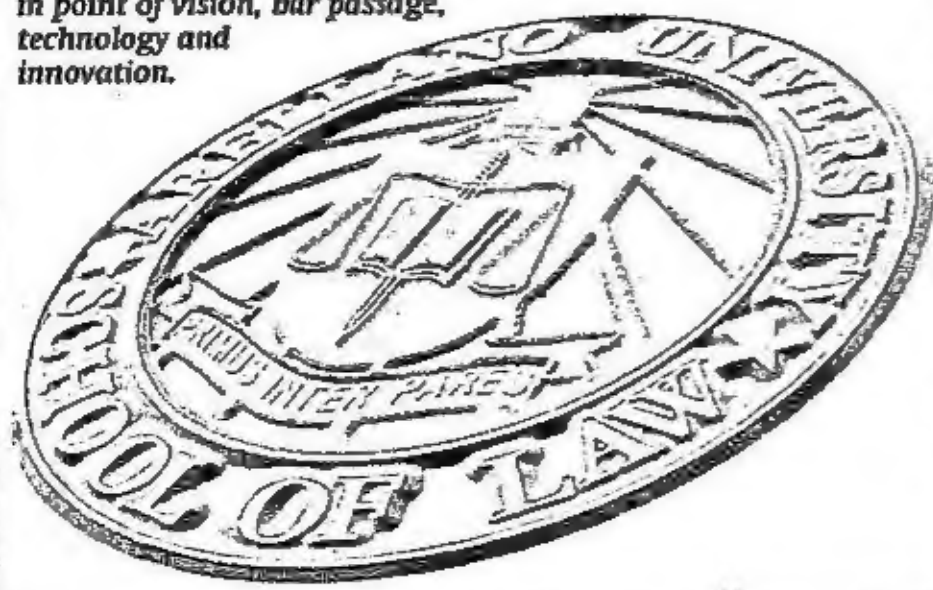
The heads of various GOCCs with huge debts, particularly the National Power Corp. (Napocor) and the National Food Authority, should be held accountable for the financial troubles of government firms, he said.

Drilon, however, said that by giving up their pork barrel, senators and congressmen would be helping address the looming fiscal crisis.

"If everybody gave up their pork barrel it would not only be a symbol, it would actually reduce the budget deficit," he told his audience at the 5th Minuduran festival in Talisay City. Drilon earlier announced that he was giving up his pork barrel funds. With a report from Carla P. Gomez and Chito A. Fuentes, PDI Visayas Bureau

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
News that makes a difference

3 suspects in Tanauan judge's slay nabbed

By Alcuin Papa

AUTHORITIES have arrested three suspects in the killing of Judge Voltaire Rosales in Tanauan City in June.

The suspects were identified as Aldrin Galicia, 30; Christopher Pamote, 28, and Michael Rivera, 19. The three, all residents of Barangay Pantay Matanda in Tanauan, were arrested by elements of the Batangas police and Task Force Rosales on Wednesday in Barangay Sala, Tanauan City.

Reports reaching Camp Crame said police received a tip from a concerned citizen on the whereabouts of the suspects. Authorities immediately formed a dragnet to trap them.

Riding on a motorcycle and a Toyota Corolla, the three were spotted in Poblacion, Tanauan City. Sensing the presence of policemen, they tried to escape but were cornered in Barangay Sala.

Confiscated from Galicia were a .45-cal. pistol, an M16 rifle and ammunition. A case of illegal possession of firearms has been

filed against him in the Tanauan City Prosecutor's Office.

Murder charges had earlier been filed against Galicia, a certain Jun Asuncion and an unidentified man for the killing of Rosales on June 10, 2004. Galicia had been positively identified by witnesses to Rosales' shooting.

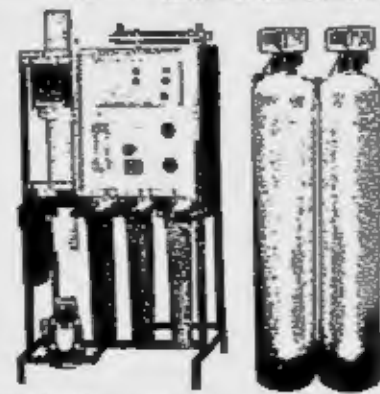
The judge was gunned down by two motorcycle-riding men on a busy Tanauan street. He was the eighth judge murdered since 1999.

Records of the National Anti-Kidnapping Task Force showed that Galicia was a member of the Lucido kidnap-for-ransom gang operating in the Southern Tagalog region.

He is facing charges in the San Pablo City prosecutor's office for the abduction and killing of Barangay Captain Gregorio Lanting of Barangay Pantay Matanda on Sept. 2, 2002.

Galicia was also linked to the murder of at least 16 other persons, seven of them policemen. He was also reportedly involved in car-napping, drug trafficking, assassinations, hijacking, robbery and holdups. With Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

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THE DAILY GOSPEL



Sunday, September 12, 2004
23rd Week in Ordinary Time

Gospel: Lk 15:1-32

Tax collectors and sinners were seeking the company of Jesus, all of them eager to hear what he had to say. But the Pharisees and the scribes frowned at this, muttering, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So Jesus told them this parable:

"Who among you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, will not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and seek out the lost one till he finds it? And finding it, will he not joyfully carry it home on his shoulders? Then he will call his friends and neighbors together and say: 'Celebrate with me for I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, just so, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety-nine upright who do not need to repent."

"What woman, if she has ten silver coins and loses one, will not light a lamp and sweep the house in a thorough search till she finds the lost coin? And finding it, she will call her friends and neighbors and say: 'Celebrate with me for I have found the silver coin I lost!' I tell you, in the same way there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner."

Jesus continued, "There was a man with two sons. The younger said to his father: 'Give me my share of the estate.' So the father divided his property between them."

"Some days later, the younger son gathered all his belongings and started off for a distant land where he squandered his wealth in loose living. Having spent everything, he was hard pressed when a severe famine broke out in that land. So he hired himself out to a well-to-do citizen of that place and was sent to work on a pig farm. So famished was he that he longed to fill his stomach even with the food given to the pigs, but no one offered him anything."

"Finally coming to his senses, he said: 'How many of my father's hired workers have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will get up and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against God and before you. I no longer deserve to be called your son. Treat me then as one of your hired servants.' With that thought in mind he set off for his father's house."

"He was still a long way off when his father caught sight of him. His father was so deeply moved with compassion that he ran out to meet him, threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. The son said: 'Father, I have sinned against Heaven and before you. I no longer deserve to be called your son...'

"But the father turned to his servants: 'Quick! Bring out the finest robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and kill it. We shall celebrate and have a feast, for this son of mine was dead and has come back to life. He was lost and is found.' And the celebration began."

"Meanwhile, the elder son had been working in the fields. As he returned and was near the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what it was all about. The servant answered: 'Your brother has come home safe and sound, and your father is so happy about it that he has ordered this celebration and killed the fattened calf.'"

"The elder son became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and pleaded with him. The indignant son said: 'Look, I have slaved for you all these years. Never have I disobeyed your orders. Yet you have never given me even a young goat to celebrate with my friends. Then when this son of yours returns after squandering your property with loose women, you kill the fattened calf for him.'"

"The father said: 'My son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But this brother of yours was dead, and has come back to life. He was lost and is found. And for that we had to rejoice and be glad.'"

Commentary

"THIS man welcomes sinners and eats with them." This is the theme of the entire chapter 15 of Luke's gospel. The chapter has three parables of God's mercy: the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost (or "prodigal") son. In fact, Luke's could be called the gospel of the lost. Luke alone tells the story of the prodigal son; he alone tells the story of the woman who anointed the feet of Jesus and washed them with her tears, drying them with her hair (7:36-50); he alone has the parable of the Pharisee and the tax-collector (18:9-14); he alone tells the story about Zacchaeus and the Lord's coming to eat with him (19:1-10); he alone tells about the repentant thief on the cross (23:39-43)—mercy even at the last gasp."

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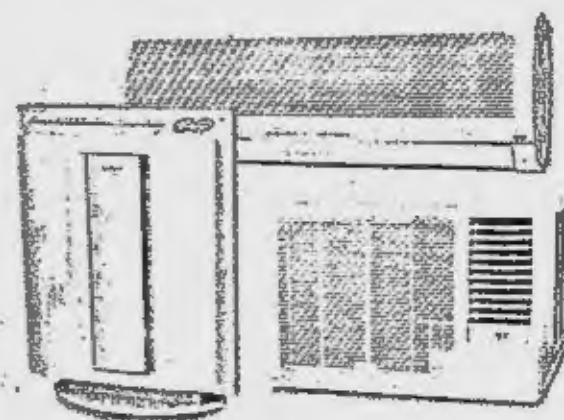
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The WORLD

Editor Luverna B. Gueco

Asia remembers its Sept. 11 victims

BANGKOK—Three years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States, victims' relatives in Asia mourned their losses anew Saturday, while officials tightened security days after a major suicide bombing in Indonesia.

In Pakistan, a radical Islamic group used the anniversary to protest American policies in Iraq. "We are holding these rallies to tell the people that America is the enemy of peace," Hafiz Hussain Ahmed, deputy leader of a coalition, said.

The family of Orasri Liangthanasan, one of two Thai women killed at the World Trade Center in New York City, was to gather at a Buddhist temple in Bangkok to pray and perform a traditional merit-making ceremony.

Orasri's eldest brother, Sathaporn, said the family still kept her bedroom furnished with the young woman's belongings and photographs, according to The Bangkok Post newspaper.

The family built a Buddhist meditation house in northern Lampang province and established a memorial fund at a Bangkok hospital to help keep Orasri's memory alive, the newspaper reported.

Meanwhile, Bangkok police stepped up security at embassies and other international venues around the Thai capital to guard against any possible attacks on the anniversary Saturday, reports said.

In Japan, a top government spokesperson acknowledged the loss of "many precious lives, including those of 24 Japanese" in the Sept. 11 attacks, which triggered other attacks around the world.

"We are entering a period in which one terrorist attack leads to another," Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda told re-

porters. "Each country should make efforts and also work closely globally to prevent this despicable crime of terrorism."

Australia's major political parties kept campaigning for the country's Oct. 9 federal elections low key, refraining from announcing any new policies.

In the southern city of Melbourne, a mosque opened its doors for a multifaith commemoration of the terror strikes, the Australian Broadcasting Corp. reported.

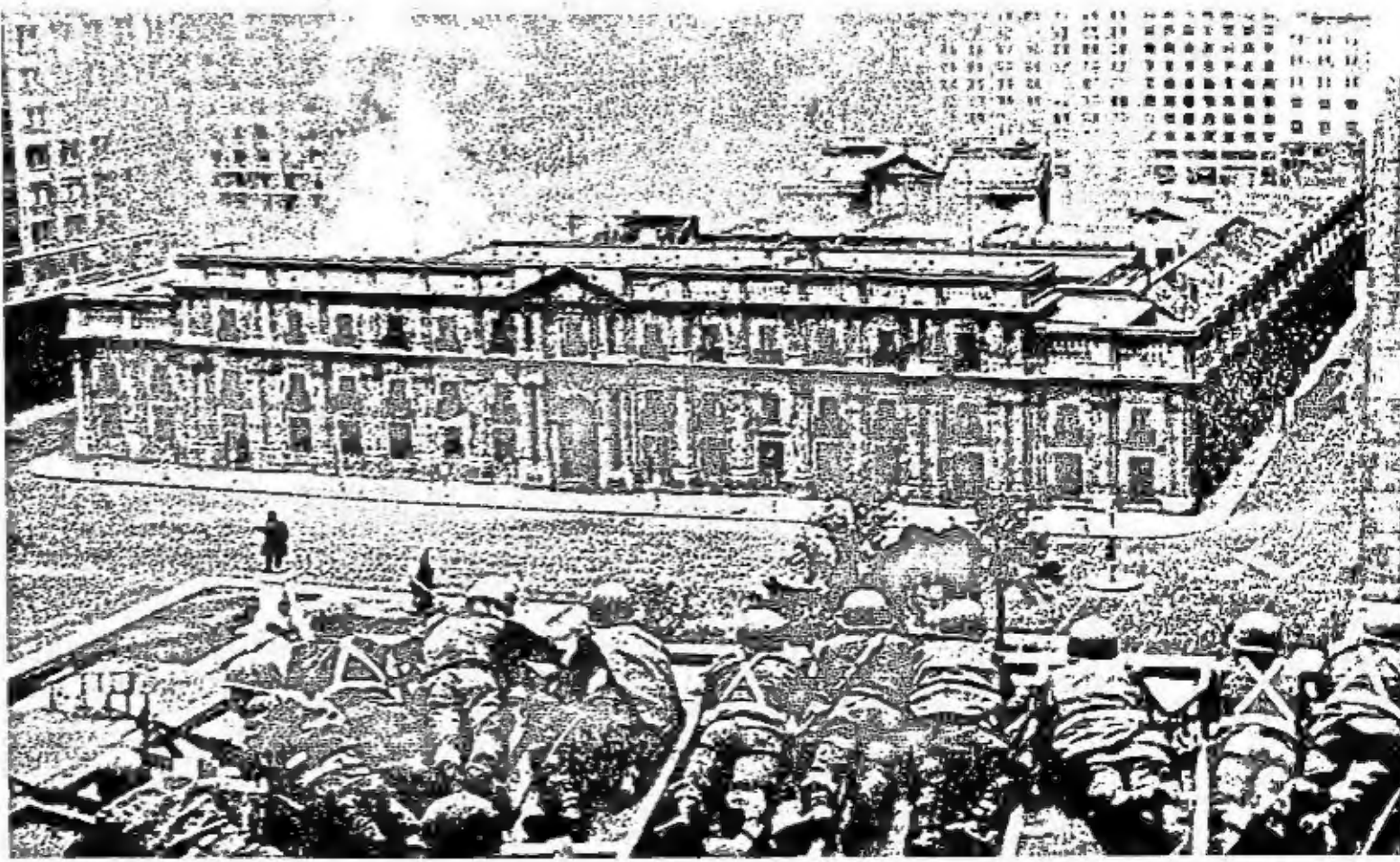
Australia—a strong US ally in the war on terror—paused to remember not only the Sept. 11 attacks but also Thursday's deadly bombing of its embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, which killed nine Indonesians.

Indonesia—the world's largest Muslim nation—was preoccupied with the aftermath of the suicide attack, and the Sept. 11 anniversary went unmentioned by the media or the government. Anger runs high there over the US-led war in Iraq.

In Pakistan, the anniversary sparked fears of possible security threats, and authorities deployed hundreds of extra police and paramilitary soldiers to embassies, government buildings and other potential targets.

Officials said they would not allow protests or rallies to disrupt the peace.

"Our security are already alert and doing their work well, but due to third anniversary of the 9/11 events, we have asked them to be extra vigilant and alert," interior ministry spokesperson Abdur Rauf Chaudhry said. **AP**



ANOTHER 9/11—Picture taken on Sept. 11, 1973 of La Moneda palace in Santiago, Chile, at the beginning of the coup d'etat led by Augusto Pinochet against constitutional President Salvador Allende, who died after the attack. **AFP**

Parents to read victims' names at 9/11 ceremony

NEW YORK—On the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, dignitaries, community leaders and relatives of victims stood at ground zero and gave voice to the names of the dead. Last year, the children of victims took up that task.

And on Saturday, once again, the names of the 2,749 people lost in the World Trade Center attack were to be read aloud—this time by parents and grandparents of those lost in the attacks three years ago.

Like both times before, the ceremony will pause four times for

moments of silence, marking the exact minute of each plane crash and tower collapse.

Nancy Brandemarti, who has never attended the ground zero remembrance, will read a poem for her son, Nicky Brandemarti, a financial analyst who died just weeks before his 22nd birthday.

"Every day is hard, but this day is a little bit harder," she said. "This day is just a day to think about him."

After the first moment of silence at 8:46 a.m., names will be read in alphabetical order, pausing at 9:03, 9:59 and 10:29 a.m.

At the Pentagon, where 184 people were killed that day by another hijacked plane, officials were to lay a wreath and observe a moment of silence. In Pennsylvania, bells will toll across the state at the minute the fourth plane went down, killing the 40 passengers and crew killed aboard Flight 93.

Nationwide, communities

will observe Sept. 11 in their own ways, with services at local firehouses, memorial dedications, bell-ringing events and flag ceremonies.

New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, who was scheduled to participate in the ground zero remembrance, said parents and grandparents were asked to lead the ceremony because the city wants to "acknowledge their great sacrifice and thank them for helping all of us to shoulder the loss." **AP**

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Jakarta mounts hunt for bombers

JAKARTA—A manhunt was underway in Indonesia Saturday for Islamic militants behind a deadly bombing at the Australian Embassy as warnings were sounded for a second suicide squad planning further attacks in the city.

Indonesian police released a video of the explosion which killed nine people claiming the bombers may have attempted a prior attack on an antiterror school during a ceremony Indonesia's president and Australia's justice minister.

They said two Malaysian bombmakers of the group through to be behind both attacks had been tracked to the edge of Jakarta where they could be recruiting for further strikes.

Australia has said the attack was the work of the al-Qaida allied Jemaah Islamiyah terror organization. A website claiming to represent the group said the attack was a message to Canberra to pull its troops out of Iraq.

Australian Prime Minister John Howard has vowed to maintain his country's commitment in Iraq, however his election rival, labor leader Mark Latham has promised to withdraw the 850-strong contingent if he wins the Oct. 9 polls.

On Saturday he announced wide-ranging new security measures including the relocation of Canberra's mission in Bali and new

checks on flights to Australia out of Indonesia.

Police say they believe the bomb may be the handiwork of Azahari Husin, a fugitive Malaysian militant wanted with compatriot Noordin Mohammad Top in connection with the Bali bombings and an attack on Jakarta's Marriott hotel.

Indonesian Police chief Da'i Bachtiar said Saturday the Malaysians had been tracked to Jakarta's outskirts and could be recruiting for another strike, naming Western embassies, hotels and banks as likely targets.

He said the group behind the bombing had intended an attack at the opening of an Australian-funded Indonesian antiterror school in July during a ceremony attended by President Megawati Sukarnoputri and Australian Justice Minister Chris Ellison, but the plot had been foiled.

Indonesian police also released a security video of the attack which showed in harrowing detail the moment of the blast and the immediate aftermath as people ran for cover under a hail of flying glass and debris.

Jemaah Islamiyah is blamed for the Bali bombings in which 202 people died and an attack on a Jakarta hotel in August last year that killed 12. Police say the organization's top bombmaker is a prime suspect in Thursday's blast.

In Jakarta, where Australian forensic teams are helping Indonesian police sift through bloodied wreckage, investigations were underway to determine whether up to three of the nine Indonesians killed were suicide bombers.

Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Keelty, who flew to Jakarta with Foreign Minister Alexander Downer after the blast, also warned of further suicide attacks, saying bombers may still be at large in the Indonesian capital.

"There is intelligence suggesting that there is a second group active in the area," Keelty said. "Intelligence comes through all the time about threats and possible threats and there's further intelligence in the last 24 to 48 hours of a second group."

Australia on Saturday also announced it would stump up an additional 3.5 million US dollars to help with the joint investigation into the bombing.

"We are determined to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Indonesians in fighting this terrorist scourge and we continue to regard what happened on Thursday as much an attack on Indonesia as it was an attack on Australia," Howard said.

As funerals were held for the Indonesian victims, outrage at the attacks was mounting in the world's largest Muslim-populated country. **AFP**



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Bomb explodes near Saudi-American bank in Jeddah

CAIRO—An explosion rocked an area near a Jeddah branch of the Saudi-American bank on Saturday, a bank employee said, and an Arab TV station said one attacker was wounded and others are holed up in a nearby house.

An official at the bank, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that an explosion took place in the al-Bawadi district of Jeddah, where the bank has a branch.

Saudi-owned Al-Arabiya TV said the explosion happened outside the branch.

The official said by telephone that the explosion had "not affected" the bank's operations and gave no further details.

The blast came on the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States, which were carried out by 19 Arab militants, including 15 Saudis, and blamed on the al-Qaida terror network headed by Saudi-born Osama bin Laden.

The US Embassy spokesperson in the Saudi capital Riyadh, Carol Kalin, said that she was investigating the report but was unable to confirm if there had been an explosion.

Another embassy spokesperson, Robert Keith, said that although there had been "no incident" at its Jeddah consulate, the mission will be closed to the public Saturday as a "precautionary measure." He did not refer to the blast near the bank. **AP**

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- 6/19/2

Pyongyang more resolved to pursue nuke programs after Seoul experiments

SEOUL—North Korea said Saturday that South Korea's secret nuclear experiments involving uranium and plutonium make the communist state more determined to pursue its own nuclear programs, a news report said.

A spokesperson for North Korea's foreign ministry condemned the South Korean experiments, conducted in 1982 and 2000, as "clearly of military nature," according to Pyongyang's official news agency KCNA, monitored by South Korea's national news agency, Yonhap.

The recent revelations of those experiments will affect the prospects for six-nation talks aimed at persuading the North to abandon its nuclear weapons programs, the unidentified North Korean spokesperson was quoted as saying.

"We strongly suspect that the United States may have masterminded the experiments that were clearly of military nature," he was quoted as saying. "We cannot but link these developments with the issue of holding six-party talks."

South Korea said Thursday that it extracted a tiny amount of plutonium, a key element for making atomic bombs, in a 1982 nuclear experiment. That revelation followed an acknowledgment last week that it enriched a small amount of ura-

nium—another element that could be used to make a bomb—in 2000.

The controversy over South Korea's experiments has threatened to further disrupt troubled efforts to persuade North Korea to dismantle its suspected nuclear weapons programs.

"Under these circumstances, it is only natural that we should never give up our nuclear program," the North Korean spokesperson said.

The North Korean threat, which follows a pattern of issuing hard-line statements in times of crucial negotiations, came as a delegation of top Chinese government and Communist Party leaders are visiting Pyongyang to discuss issues including the North's nuclear programs.

China, North Korea's key ally, has been host to three rounds of six-nation talks on ending North Korea's nuclear ambitions, but those talks ended without breakthroughs. The talks involve the United States, the two Koreas, China, Japan and Russia.

In a meeting in Tokyo, diplomats from Japan, South Korea and the United States reaffirmed Friday that the next round of six-nation talks must be held later this month as scheduled.

North Korea's reluctance to participate has stalled efforts to

restart the talks, while South Korea's recent acknowledgment it had conducted nuclear experiments threatened to further complicate the negotiations.

South Korea denies any nuclear weapons ambitions, calling those experiments purely "scientific research activities." It says it has been cooperating fully with UN nuclear inspectors to ensure transparency.

In an interview Friday with The Associated Press, US Secretary of State Colin Powell said Powell attached minimal importance to the recent disclosures that South Korea had engaged in a uranium enrichment experiment four years ago and a plutonium-based nuclear experiment two decades ago.

"It's quite clear that these were not intended other than for academic, experimental purposes, and it's over with and I think that's, frankly, the end of the matter," Powell said.

"I don't see any great significance to them, but the North Koreans always like to seize on anything to make their point," said.

In its first reaction to the South Korean experiments, however, a North Korean envoy to the United Nations in New York warned Wednesday that the South Korean nuclear activities could trigger a nuclear arms race in Northeast Asia. **AP**



ACCUSED US Army deserter Charles Jenkins, left, salutes as he surrenders at US Army's Camp Zama, south of Tokyo, Sept. 11 to face charges that he left his army unit in 1965 and defected to North Korea. The man in the middle is unidentified.

40 years after, US deserter surrenders

CAMP ZAMA, Japan—Nearly 40 years after allegedly deserting the US Army by crossing into North Korea, Charles Robert Jenkins turned himself in to face American military justice here on Saturday.

Jenkins, 64, was expected to bargain for a dishonorable discharge in a step toward his possible settlement in Japan with his wife, an abducted Japanese national whom he met in North Korea, and their two daughters.

Wearing a dark grey suit, Jenkins approached the military police building at Camp Zama, the headquarters of the US Army in Japan,

stood to attention and gave a long salute to a senior officer.

"Sir, I'm Sergeant Jenkins, and I'm reporting," Jenkins said, according to spokesperson Major John Amberg.

Provost Marshal Lieutenant Colonel Paul Nigara replied: "You are now under the control of the US Army."

Later, Jenkins was seen in army-supplied footage seated in a new uniform with three gold shoulder bars signifying his rank as sergeant, receiving advance pay in US dollars.

Saturday's appearance begins the process that will answer how Jenkins, known to his family as

"Super," ended up on the wrong side of the Demilitarized Zone on a frosty night in January 1965.

Washington says Jenkins defected to Stalinist North Korea while serving in South Korea near the border set up after the Korean War.

Jenkins has been charged with desertion—which carries a maximum life term—adding the enemy, encouraging disloyalty and inciting others to desert. He has appeared in North Korean propaganda films.

His family in the United States insists he was kidnapped while on patrol and subsequently brainwashed. **AFP**

Hurricane 'Ivan' slams Jamaica

KINGSTON, Jamaica—Debris-choked ocean waters poured through seaside streets of the Jamaican capital early Saturday as a strengthened Hurricane "Ivan" pounded the island, packing winds of almost 250 km per hour.

The storm, the worst to hit the region in decades, has already killed at least 27 people in Grenada, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic and Tobago, and triggered panic buying and mass evacuations in parts of Cuba and Florida.

Seven-meter waves slammed the coastline as Ivan approached the Caribbean island nation of 2.7 million, where a state of emergency was declared at midday Friday.

Power blinked off over the island, and rivers overflowed, sweeping away homes and flooding neighborhoods with waist-high waters roiling with tree branches, boulders and debris.

"Flooding is already begun in some places," Prime Minister P.J. Patterson declared around midday Friday. "I will be advising the governor general to issue a proclamation declaring a period of public emergency in the island and its territorial waters with immediate effect."

He pleaded with residents to evacuate coastal areas but many ignored the order, saying they feared looting.

At 2 a.m., the core of the hurricane was about 75 km southwest of Kingston, after a "wobble" west of its northwesterly path kept the eye and the strongest winds surrounding it just south of the island, the Miami-based National Hurricane Center said. **AFP**

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APPARENTLY, it is not enough that former President Bill Clinton has had his chest sliced open, his breastbone sawed through, and his heart stopped cold and replumbed. He must also suffer the finger wagging and I-told-you-so's of those who say he caused his own heart disease by indulging in cheeseburgers, cigars and too much work.

A television crew even reported on Clinton's eating habits from a restaurant in Chappaqua, N.Y., as if it were the scene of a crime. Clinton himself seems to have bought into the theory, confessing his dietary sins in interviews before doing penance on the heart-lung machine. But experts differ as to whether it is scientifically valid or fair to assume that Clinton, who has a family history of heart disease, brought on his own illness. Studies of large groups show that diet plays a role in coronary disease, but it is harder to prove that link in any individual patient.

Nutritionists seem least inclined to let Clinton off the hook. Heart surgeons, who earn their living from fixing up patients like him, tend to blame his genes more than his taste buds and to doubt that his artery blockages could have been prevented. Cardiologists fall somewhere between. Psychologists and medical ethicists say the need to find fault reveals more about the blamer than the person being blamed.

What is known scientifically, from studies that have surveyed large populations over decades, is that rates of heart disease are higher in people with high total cholesterol and high levels of LDL, the "bad cholesterol." And lowering cholesterol decreases



CLINTON

death rates from heart disease.

Based on these findings, and the fact that heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, it might seem as if the problem might be solved if everyone would just give up cheeseburgers. But when it comes to determining what drives cholesterol and heart-disease risk in any one person, the calculus becomes more complex. There are healthy people with high cholesterol, and heart patients with seemingly enviable readings.

In addition, a person's genetic makeup plays a powerful part in determining cholesterol levels. To complicate matters further, people respond differently to dietary fat. In some, a fatty diet will make cholesterol shoot up. A lucky few can eat almost anything and still have low readings. And though reducing saturated fat can help many people to lower their cholesterol, it does not always do enough.

In most people with heart disease, doctors cannot state with certainty how much various risk factors are to blame, said Dr. William Cole, a cardiologist at New York University. *New York Times*

Israelis kill 3 in Gaza

GAZA CITY—Three Palestinians, one a local Hamas leader, were killed Friday as Israel pressed a major offensive in the Gaza Strip and imposed a watertight closure on the Palestinian territories ahead of the Jewish New Year.

Meanwhile, right-wing Jewish settlers warned of "civil war" over Israel's planned pullout from the Gaza Strip and urged Israeli soldiers and police not to take part in what they said would be a "crime against humanity."

Local Hamas chief Abdelaziz Ashqar, 34, was killed as clashes between Palestinian militants and Israeli troops continued for a third day in the Jabalya area of northern Gaza, Palestinian security sources and medics said.

Another Palestinian man was killed at the same time, while a 14-year-old boy died from tank fire later.

On Thursday, five Palestinians died and another 45 were wounded in the on-going operation.

The latest deaths brought to 4,302 the number of people killed since the beginning of the intifadah, in late September 2000, including 3,288 Palestinians and 943 Israelis.

Another 50 Palestinians were injured in the same area, including three who suffered wounds when an Israeli helicopter fired a rocket, the sources said.

Israel launched a major raid on Wednesday to try to stop militants from firing makeshift rockets across the border into southern Israel.

But on Friday, three more missiles made it through. They struck the Israeli town of Sderot and the Negev desert without causing any casualties, military sources said. *AFP*

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OPINION

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Private armies

LAST week's three-part special report by Abra correspondent Artha Kira Paredes and photographer EV Espintu is a chilling look at the ultimate dirty trick in politics: assassination. The devil is quite literally in the details, but what makes the story truly terrifying is the shock of the old: The country has seen all this before.

We have already suffered through convulsions of violence by what in government jargon is now called partisan armed groups, or PAGs. In the 1960s and early 1970s, especially, the provinces of Northern Luzon and Southern Mindanao were the battleground of politicians and businessmen who killed each other or each other's relatives and supporters through their private armies.

The armies were the classic symptoms of a weak state: groups that flourished in the absence or feeble presence of the law, that rivaled the local police or military contingent, or that served as an alternative source of power.

It is too early to say that Abra, like a patient on an operating table, has slipped back into this nightmare. Altogether, there are about a hundred PAG soldiers in the province of over 200,000, possibly responsible for 14 politically motivated killings in the six years between the election years of 1998 and 2004. But local officials acknowledge that the polls last May gave the private armies a new lease on life.

Their re-appearance, however, is marked by the same old pieties of local politics.

The same old recourse to the practical: "As someone educated in Manila, I had a different perspective of how the political playing field should be. But when a mayor, who happened to be my close friend, was assassinated, it was then that I decided to put up my own private army," said a public official, with all the wisdom of his 29 years.

The same old lack of faith in the justice system: "Actually, all politicians here have their own private armies. *Hindi uso ang demandahan dito* [Lawsuits aren't the norm here]," said another politician with a PAG.

The same old symbiotic relationship with the authorities: "They have become so emboldened because they are being protected by some high-ranking police officers," said Vicente Valera, who is only the governor of Abra. But a police sergeant passes the buck. "We are only issued rifles but members of PAGs here are armed with baby Armalite rifles and other high-powered guns. I am 99 percent sure that these were issued by the military."

The same old complaint about corruption and misuse of public funds: "PAG members are better armed than us because the politicians they serve use government funds to buy guns," a police official said.

And not least, the same old justification, the same old argument from deterrence: "The only way for the killings to stop is to make them feel how painful it is to lose someone that you love," said a third public official who maintains a private army.

That line was said with all the security that money can buy, but the politicians interviewed for the special report had one thing in common: They were all, quite literally, under the gun. The specter of violent death hounded them or their families. In sum, their private armies, or the violence that their armies inflicted, have not performed as advertised. They have not made the killings stop.

But the false sense of security they bring is a potent drug; it will become even more potent if the creeping sense of lawlessness the country has been suffering from in recent months—symbolized in the spate of unsolved attacks on journalists—picks up speed.

It is the job of Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes to slow it down, and then to eliminate it altogether. He can start in Abra, scheduling that first meeting with Valera which the governor seems unable or unwilling to set up. His background as Armed Forces chief of staff and then defense secretary should give him the credibility to put pressure on the military; his experience as anti-kidnapping czar should give him an insight into how the police can overcome its traditional rivalry with the AFP and get the job done.

He needs to set an example that the arm of the law is not only long enough; it is also made of steel.



Leadership by example

LIKE an old maid teacher, President Macapagal-Arroyo gave the public servants under her constitutional control in the executive department a caustic talking to. She declared that the country was in a period of austerity and everyone must be frugal. No more frivolity, enough of extravagance. This is a time for belt-tightening and personal sacrifice.

Accordingly, her Administrative Order 103 rules out "lavish lifestyles" and, as summarized in this paper, calls for the "suspension of local and foreign travels, seminars, parties and sports activities, new benefits to officers and employees, payment of overtime pay, and procurement of new vehicles."

She also decreed a 10 percent cut on "the services of consultants, technical assistants, contractual and casual employees," and stopped "the grant of honoraria or allowances for teaching personnel, lecturers, resource persons, coordinators or facilitators... chairs and members of boards, councils or entities not paid salaries but honoraria."

Although the AO is addressed only to personnel in the executive department, it is hoped that the legislative and judicial departments, as well as the constitutional commissions, will apply similar rules to cooperate in the current effort to cope with the financial crisis facing the nation. After all, it is not only in President Arroyo's department that public funds are callously misspent as if there were no tomorrow.

The Commission on Elections, for example, should sell the luxury cars it purchased two years ago in excess of the adequate official vehicles its members were already enjoying. I criticized it in this column for its extravagance, but not many paid attention, least of all the other government offices that were similarly overspending public funds for their own caprice.

For a government so poor it cannot even build enough schools for our children, it is heart-rending how our public officials overspend public funds for their own convenience

SEPARATE
OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz



and vanity. The best illustration of such prodigality is the junkets enjoyed by the legislators costing millions of pesos yearly. The wasted public funds are better devoted to the urgent needs of the people, like more hospitals and free medicines for the poor.

On the same day President Arroyo issued AO 103, the papers also reported her trip to China. She took with her as part of her official delegation her spouse who, as First Gentleman acquired official character (although Sir Denis Thatcher kept a low profile and did not accompany his wife during her diplomatic travels abroad). Five department secretaries went along with their respective support staffs, as well as Ms Arroyo's own *alalay* like probably her hairdresser and manicurist.

All the members of what Secretary Ignacio Bunye described, I suppose with tongue in cheek, as the smallest official delegation ever sent by our government, enjoyed free transportation, board and lodging, and tourist attractions at the expense of either the government of the Philippines or of the host country.

But that is not all. The President also had an unofficial delegation consisting of members of her family, including their domestic help. Besides her son, Rep. Mikey Arroyo, and her brother-in-law, Rep. Ignacio Arroyo, who were part of the official delegation on recommendation of Speaker Jose de Venecia, her other son Dato, her daughters-in-law Angela and Kakai, and her grandchildren Mikaela Gloria and Eva Victoria, with their respective nannies, went along. Only her daughter Luli stayed home and missed all the fun.

Looking good

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M.
Orbos, SVD

Chastisements are God's way of helping us go back to Him. In good times we often forget or choose to forget Him. In bad times, we come to our senses, we are reminded once again, and we remember. But that is not always the case. There are people who continue to be proud and unbending and unlistening in spite of all the "wake-up calls" from God. We can't go on fighting God. We will never win. When we are battered by trials, failures and sufferings, God is calling us not so much to be strong but to be still, for it is in being still and humble that we become strong. The call is not so much for us to become a defiant hero as to be a repentant child.

"It takes more courage to repent than to keep on sinning." I met a boy again this week. He has always refused to go to confession, especially during his younger and daring days. "Baka na lang (some other time)," he would always say. Now that he is older, poorer and less healthier, do you think he'd come seeking reconciliation with God? No, he still refuses to accept God's forgiveness and mend his ways. At least this time, he allowed me to bless him—something which he used to sneer at or joke about in his prime. I look beyond his brave front for I know that behind the confident, proud and cynical husk is a scared, wounded, crying, good, little boy. He is closer to home now. In time, he will enter the door

Although Bunye insisted that the Philippine government did not shoulder the expenses of the members of the unofficial delegation, he could not say how much they had spent or who may have paid for them. There would have been many offers to carry favor with the First Family. But then, of course, the President herself would have been happy to foot all the bills in exchange for the sheer pleasure of having her whole family, except her only daughter, savoring all the delights of the China trip.

The only blight on her family excursion was its effect on AO 103 where she asked the people to undergo personal privation to resist the economic problems confronting the nation. She urged her co-workers in the executive department to be more prudent in the use of public funds and property and avoid wasteful and excessive spending. "Profligacy brings shame not only to their employers and respective agencies," she intoned, "but also to me and the entire government."

President Arroyo reminds me of the physician who cannot heal himself. Her abjurations against ostentation and improvidence in a time of acute want apply to others but not to her whose insensitive "profligacy" constitutes the leadership by example that the people cannot stomach. It is like an insult to the overburdened people who are reeling from the higher cost of food, and gasoline, and power rates, and heavier taxes.

It is like telling us to endure our pains while she and her family enjoy themselves. It is like saying we must grin and bear our troubles instead of attacking their privileged pleasures. It is like Marie Antoinette's unfeeling advice that the peasants should eat cake if they cannot have bread.

A published notice of the Judicial and Bar Council lists me among the candidates for chairman of the Legal Education Board. I am not interested in the position nor have I applied for it. I thank whoever may have nominated me, but I must decline the kindness.

that has always been there open for him all these years: Prayer. Prayer. Prayer

Someone once said that true repentance has two eyes: A weeping eye for the sins of the past, and a watchful eye for the sins of the future. Repentance means that we surrender all the sins we have committed and the sins we can and still intend to commit

By just looking, we can hurt people already. By just looking, we can also be indifferent, and detached and uninvolved. By just looking, we can go through life uncommitted. The Father's invitation is for all of us not to just look, but to look with the eyes of love, and to have love that always looks for opportunities to do good. Don't just go for good looks. Just be good, and do good.

Inviting you to join a Pilgrimage to Naju, Korea, Oct. 4 to 9, to meet the visionary Julia Kim, a victim soul who has healed many people, physically, spiritually and emotionally. For more details you can call 9111394/9130388, 09212866810.

SVD Class '71, the so-called Papal Class (Batch of Sammy Yap, Bishop Rullera and Bishop Bastes) is inviting all the SVDs and XVDs to a Class Reunion in Sorsogon City on Oct. 17-18. For particulars, please call 0917-5050503/043-3181982.

Held recently in Cagayan de Oro was the National Congress on the Holy Childhood as part of the mission animation efforts of the Catholic Church. All of us have a mission in this life. Yes, we all are co-mission-ers of our Lord.

A moment with the Lord
 Lord, help me to go beyond my concern of just good looks but to really look good to You. Amen.

Heading home

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan



IT'S the last few days of our vacation in Illinois. We visited the newly inaugurated Millennium Park in Chicago which, in the words of Mayor Richard Daley, serves as "an enduring tribute to Chicago's long history of architectural and artistic excellence." The centerpiece of the park is a bean sculpture in stainless steel by Anish Kapoor. As I mentioned in an earlier column, Chicago is also the site of a double life-sized monument of our national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal, at Lakeshore Drive. The bridge at the corner of Wacker and State Streets honors the World War II battle sites of Bataan and Corregidor; and at the John Shedd Aquarium, the largest in the world, the beauty of the coral reefs near Apo Island, Negros Oriental, is spotlighted in an ongoing Wild Reef exhibit.

More than any other major city in the world, Chicago has been extremely generous in its appreciation of Philippine history and habitat. Incidentally, a new Philippine consul general, Ambassador Blesilda Cabrera, recently assumed office in Chicago.

Back in Woodridge, I decided to have a haircut before heading home. Mike and Dave (I didn't get their last names) run an old-style barbershop catering mainly to senior citizens. Unlike the "supercuts" one gets in the regular barbershops, they still employ a lot of scissor work. I asked Dave whom he was voting for in the November elections and he replied that he was a registered Republican, but he didn't sound too sure about voting for President Bush. Like many Americans, the state of the economy was very much on his mind, but he was also concerned about security, Iraq and the continuing war on terrorism. The Republican National Convention, held for the first time in heavily Democratic New York City, had just ended, giving President Bush a slight lead over his opponent John Kerry. With a little over eight weeks left before the voting, the race is still considered too close to call.

An interesting story on the front page of the

Chicago Tribune is about the life of an Illinois lotto winner. It is a story that could never be written in a Philippine daily, considering the secrecy which shrouds our lotto winners.

In 1984, Mike Witkowski won \$40 million in the Illinois lottery. At that time it was considered the largest prize ever won by an individual in North America. Mike, a bachelor, had a job with a printing company. He had asked his father to buy a few lottery tickets and, with his brother and sister, had agreed to split the money if they ever won.

Sure enough, upon winning, the proceeds were divided equally among them—Mike, his father, brother and sister. In the case of Mike, he decided to take his share in 20 annual installments. He retired from work at age 28; bought a couple of racehorses and started a restaurant business. Both ventures ended in failure, and he has since stayed away from other forms of risk-taking. Today, he lives off carefully placed investments.

As expected, strangers from all over the world, who had read of his good fortune, sent letters asking him to share his winnings with them. One specific request was for \$85,000 to start a business. A lady wrote him a 21-page typewritten letter saying she was down to her last \$20, and needed help. At a bar, a drunk who recognized him asked him to buy a round of drinks for the house. He did.

According to Mike, the best thing about winning the lottery is "that every morning I can send off my kids to school and be at home when they come back. A lot of dads miss that kind of stuff."

What are the chances of winning such a lottery? A statistics professor says it's like "randomly

grabbing a specific quarter (25-cent coin) from a stack 20 miles high."

Los Angeles was our last stop on the way home. Our nephew, Aly Valenciano, a cousin of Gary V., met us at the airport, and we spent the night at his lovely Yorba Linda home with wife Tricia and their two kids, Emily and Maya. The next day, Aly drove us to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley. Among the gifts on display at the museum were an aquamarine evening gown fully beaded, and a mother-of-pearl armchair—both gifts from Imelda Marcos to Nancy Reagan.

Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th president of the United States, was a hugely popular figure in California. I recall watching the funeral rites leading to his interment in Simi Valley. People had lined up along the route of the motorcade, hoping to catch a glimpse of his casket as it moved forward to the final resting place. Inscribed over his tomb site, next to the library, are the words "I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will always eventually triumph. And there is purpose and worth to each and every life."

Presidential libraries in the United States are privately funded institutions showcasing the lives and times of their namesakes. Going through them is like undertaking a course in Political History, complete with manuscripts, documents and relics of the past. So far we have been fortunate enough to visit the Carter Center in Atlanta, Georgia, the Nixon Library in Yorba Linda and now the Ronald Reagan Museum. In November, the Clinton Library in Little Rock, Arkansas will be inaugurated—the latest in a line of presidential archives which will enable people to better understand and appreciate historical events of the past years.

In the Philippines, there are no comparable facilities. Perhaps, it is time for us to look into the possibility of providing posterity with a more accessible record of the presidency.

Sacrilege

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David



and unanswerable call?

SISTER Grace is the central character in Diane Shaffer's "Sacrilege." She is, like so many nuns I know, a livewire, a dynamo who, after decades of activism, now runs a crisis center in New York, serving the human drags of the city. She has also felt the calling to the priesthood and believes ardently that, for the good of the Church, women should be ordained.

It is this last stance, for which she is unapologetic and, indeed, quite willing to stand on a soapbox, that often gets her into trouble with her superiors. The Pope himself, taking cognizance of her outspoken and—to him and other church leaders—"dangerous" views, has warned her to shut up or be shipped out. For its messenger, the Vatican has chosen Cardinal King who in his past life as a priest in a poor Appalachian parish recognized the potential in an altar girl named Grace, providing for her a role model for what she felt was her true calling.

Against this backdrop, we also follow the story of Sister Grace's friendship with a young man named Ramon, who despite his anger at the Church and his street smarts, allows glimmers of his spirituality to shine through. It is Sister Grace who first glimpses Ramon's inner light, but it is also Ramon who gives Sister Grace the challenge to rise to the demands of her personal vocation.

"Sacrilege" is not an easy play to mount. It is often too preachy for my taste; character development and dramatic tension are sacrificed for the polemics that must be dispensed. But

Sister Grace is an excellent acting vehicle, which Tami Monsod, one of New Voice Company's regulars, grabs with wholehearted gusto. When she stands between Jamie Wilson, who plays Ramon, and Leo Rialp, who essays the role of Cardinal King, one is astounded at how small a woman she is. Because alone, she fills up the stage and commands our attention.

ONE staging device by director Rito Asilo brings home the point about the distance the Church leadership has put between itself and its members.

Sister Grace is called before a tribunal, headed by Cardinal King and two other bishops, to face charges regarding her behavior and her views. If found "guilty" of violating Church laws, she would be expelled from her order.

While two previous witnesses face the audience onstage, Sister Grace confronts the tribunal from her seat among the audience, facing the men in robes. It is as if Sister Grace speaks not just among but for us, ordinary laymen and laywomen for whom, in this modern age, the Church—or rather its leaders—is beheld, much like an eccentric uncle, with fondness and amusement but also irritation and impatience.

We love you dearly, we want to say, but you're just not getting through to us. Yes, we love your stories and listen in silence to your ranting and scolding. But, sometimes, we wish you'd stop and listen to us, too, and stop treating us like children, because while you weren't looking, we grew up and developed minds of our own. We want to remain part of the family, but if all we hear are the same tiresome tirades, then we'll have no choice but to keep our distance and just see you on family occasions.

Sister Grace has the last word, though. Vocations all around the world are falling, she says. Seminaries are standing empty and priests are forced to consecrate huge batches of hosts to be distributed by nuns and laity in parishes without priests. For its own survival, the Church needs to ordain women. The day for women in the priesthood is just around the corner.

Crisis psychology

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David



PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's dilemma was whether to acknowledge the full magnitude of the country's fiscal and debt crisis, or to continue her pre-election policy of finessing it by reducing the problem to a simple budget deficit.

Confronted by a paper from University of the Philippines economists, which showed that the country faced a serious fiscal and debt crisis in the next three years if nothing decisive was done, the President responded that we were already in the midst of the crisis. This admission puzzled even Ms Arroyo's own economic managers.

But it allowed her to do several things. Despite the risks of frightening investors and creditors, the acknowledgment of the crisis gave her the right to demand that Congress now focus on the urgent task of adopting the solutions she has proposed rather than on debating the causes of the crisis. But more than this, she saw in the crisis the opportunity to consolidate her hold on the presidency by dismissing lingering doubts about her electoral mandate as trivial distractions in a time that commands national unity.

When a family is hit by a crisis, its members feel morally obliged to set aside their bickerings so they may face their collective problems squarely. They rally around the head of the family, take orders without question, and agree to put the interests of the whole family ahead of their own. Ms Arroyo assumed the stance of a strong matriarch at her appearance before the Manila Overseas Press Club recently. She issued a stern warning: "If these vested interests believe they can destabilize or sabotage our efforts, they better think twice. Our people are behind me. I have their mandate, and I am here to serve that mandate for our nation's best interests."

The reference to "mandate" is interesting. I am sure she meant to say that, with the elections behind us, she was now ready to be a tough "non-political president." But ironically, the word "mandate" also instantly reactivated images of the dubi-

ous manner in which she was proclaimed winner in the last elections. This explains Sen. Nene Pimentel's caustic remark the other day: "The President's declaration that the country was in a fiscal crisis was nothing but a ploy to cover up her lack of mandate, as well as the illegal use of public funds for her election campaign and the massive electoral fraud committed by the administration."

Faced with a fiscal crisis, the nation now seems so far away from the defective electoral process that gave Ms Arroyo a new six-year mandate. The parallelism between the Philippine president and the US president is uncanny. The "crisis" is to Ms Arroyo what the "war" is to George W. Bush Jr.—a warrant to close ranks behind a strong president and a reason to be grateful that we have this president and not the other. This line makes people forget that this is the same president that brought them to where they are today—in our case, the very same one who, says Sen. Joker Arroyo, caused the government to lose money in order to be popular and incurred more debt for the country in three years than in all the preceding years under Ramos and Estrada.

It is not to say the fiscal crisis that the country faces today is not real. It is as real as the war that America has brought upon Iraq, upon the Islamic world, and upon itself. There is no question that national unity is important during such times. But it would be a tragedy to suspend one's critical faculties at a time when what is needed most is judgment. The war against the fiscal and debt crisis,

like America's "war against terror," is being used to discredit all criticism and to secure a quick consensus around certain measures that will make the general public absorb all the burden created by the irresponsibility, corruption, and greed of a few. This kind of mass psychology exploits communal solidarity and feeds on public insecurity.

I have heard many middle class Filipinos say, "Thank God that at a time of economic hardship like this, we have a doctor of economics rather than an ignoramus at the nation's helm." The equivalent of this illusion in America today is "Thank God that at a time of war like this, we have a decisive president rather than a wimp at the nation's helm." The basis for such tacit faith is more imaginary than real. Both presidents are nothing but skillful role-players without any real experience. You feel like crying when you see how desperately people want to believe in their leaders.

That the country is in a serious fiscal and debt crisis can no longer be denied. Ms Arroyo and her allies tried to conceal this in the months before the elections. Now that the extent of this mess is slowly becoming clear, Ms Arroyo wants to end the debate and, in the name of communal patriotism, focus instead on the quick-fixes she is offering.

It's funny how Bush and Ms Arroyo are so alike. Bush wants to end the Iraq war by spending more for the war. Ms Arroyo wants to end the debt problem by borrowing more. Buried in the business pages the other day was the news that the Philippines has successfully raised another \$1 billion to finance Napocor's debts by issuing sovereign bonds in the world market. The new IOUs consist of \$300 million worth of bonds maturing in 2015, and another \$700 million payable in 2025. My granddaughter Julia, who will be 25 years old by then, will be starting her own family saddled by this new debt, in addition to the old ones unpaid from the past. That's not funny.

Comments to davidinquirer@yahoo.com

Another bank failure, another Senate probe

SOME 10,000 depositors of First Savings Bank, most of whom are market vendors and small-scale entrepreneurs, are presently on edge while waiting for the return of their money.

It's not money that came from illegal or immoral sources; it's money they honestly worked for and religiously set aside to meet their business requirements, pay for the education of their children, or use for possible emergencies in the future.

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

Compared to the assets of the rest of the country's banking institutions, First Savings' financial problems are peanuts. Its deposits represent only .08 percent of the banking industry's. But try telling that to depositors who had to toil days and nights, seven days a week, to be able to earn something extra that they can deposit in their accounts, and the least that you will get in response is a bloody nose.

Until the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp. makes good its promise to pay back accounts that do not exceed P250,000, the depositors can only gnash their teeth in anger over the betrayal of the trust they gave to the ill-fated bank. If cuss words can kill, the bank owners, the Yujuico family (former owners of a commercial bank that collapsed due to mismanagement in the 1970s), would have been chopped to extra fine pieces already.

Noiceably, none of First Savings' owners have been seen or heard from since the bank's collapse. It's been the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and PDIC officials who have been answering the questions from the public and attending to the complaints of the depositors. Either of two things: the owners were able to sneak out of the country before the bank ran out of funds, or they are comfortably holed up somewhere around, waiting for the heat over the fiasco to die down before they resume their daily routine.

Publicity

As expected, the politicians were quick to take advantage of the publicity generated by the bank failure. Two Senate committees are poised to conduct an investigation "in aid of legislation" to determine the circumstances that led to the bank's collapse and the action the Bangko Sentral could have taken to avert the problem.

So what else is new? Whenever a bank goes bankrupt, a legislative inquiry follows as a matter of course, like a knee-jerk reaction. In 1997, Monte de Piedad, the country's second oldest bank that was formerly owned by the Roman Catholic Church, went belly up when borrowers from the P1.8 billion fund for transport operators defaulted.

The following year, Orient Bank, owned by real estate developer Jose Go, and Richmond Bank, owned by the Midas garment export group, were closed down for failure to service the requirements of their depositors.

In 2000, the once proud and mighty Urban Bank collapsed under the weight of close to P2 billion worth of real estate loans that were covered by insufficient collaterals.

Two years later, Unistrust Bank, controlled by infamous or famous (depending on your perspective) Japanese businessman Genta Ogami, was taken over by the PDIC when it was hit by a bank run caused by a change in ownership and internal management disputes.

The congressional investigations into these bank failures were front-page or prime-time radio and TV news. Several congressmen and senators became bank experts cum crime investigators in front of media reporters.

Recommendations

After the full measure of publicity had been exhausted, nothing was heard from the lawmakers again. Several months later, and while the people's attention was focused elsewhere, the committees quietly submitted their reports. Like all other inquiries of a similar nature, their recommendations boiled down to two: prosecute erring bank officials and tighten the screws on the banks.

There is nothing in the air to indicate that the planned Senate investigation into First Savings' collapse may turn out differently. Except for the name of the bank, the circumstances that led to its downfall, the banking rules and regulations applicable and the regulatory agencies involved are similar to those of Urban Bank and company.

If the purpose of the Senate probe is to determine if any stockholder or officer of First Savings, or official of the Bangko Sentral should be held responsible for this latest banking fiasco, then that task can be more efficiently or professionally undertaken by the Office of the Ombudsman or Department of Justice.

Considering the number of cases involving a violation of banking laws that have been thrown into their laps by congressional committees these past few years, the DOJ and Ombudsman already have the expertise to find out the identities of the bank officials responsible for the dissipation of First Savings' funds.

The banking industry is tightly regulated. The Bangko Sentral and the banks' own organization have well defined rules and forms for all kinds of banking transactions. Because money is involved, the paper trail in banks (although mostly done through computers) is meticulous. Every centavo has to be accounted for on a practically daily basis.

Investigation

To the trained eyes of a determined investigator, the "smoking gun" can be spotted even if it is buried under a mountain of receipts, invoices and other bank documents. This effective sleuthing can be done, not under the glare of publicity, but in the quiet confines of a secluded room.

If the objective of the Senate inquiry is to enact new legislation to prevent a repeat of the First Savings incident, the effort may be an exercise in futility. Republic Act 7653 defines in clear and forceful terms the duties and responsibilities of the present Bangko Sentral in regard to the regulation of banks and savings institutions in our country.

The law gives the Bangko Sentral the authority to take the appropriate preemptive measures to protect bank depositors if it has information that a bank is having financial problems. At the first sign of trouble, no matter how faint, and even without waiting for the bank concerned to request assistance, the Bangko Sentral can step into the picture and take matters into its own hands to protect the depositors.

Whether or not the Bangko Sentral was remiss in the First Savings case is a simple case of investigation and application of the law. It does not need a Senate inquiry, with all the attendant expenses, to be able to do that.

But if the purpose of the investigation is to fill in the time before they go on recess and fly out of the country at taxpayers' expense, or to give the impression to the public that they are doing something to earn their pay, that's a different (stinking) story.

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TALK of the TOWN

UP 11 plan: Can it keep RP afloat? (3)

THE PAPER written by 11 professors at the University of the Philippines School of Economics (UPSE), which urges the government to adopt a set of revenue and cost-saving measures to head off economic collapse, has triggered debates inside and outside the academe.

Last week, we featured an article claiming that the UP economists were selective in their identification of the causes of the fiscal crisis and that the solution they were proposing was woefully inadequate.

Today, we are running two articles on issues that the UP economists did not discuss in their paper—the pattern of

rent-seeking, influence peddling, cronyism and corruption in the National Power Corp. whose rate increase the economists are supporting, and the ethics of debt relief.

Next week, we will print an article by six graduate students, who came to the defense of their mentors at the UPSE after Walden Bello, Liddy Nacpil and Ana Maria Nemenzo wrote that the UPSE report was overdue, selective and not daring enough.

The paper that the PhD students submitted to Talk of the Town is titled "Comments on the Bello et al. critique: Biased and economically unsound."

It pays to bleed Napocor

By Maitet Diokno-Pascual
Chair, Institute for Popular Democracy

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez justifies the recent rate hike given by the Energy Regulatory Commission to the National Power Corp. (Napocor) as reflecting the "true cost" of the state-owned utility.

What he and the professors at the UP School of Economics, who are supporting the rate increase, don't tell the public is that a significant part of the "true cost" of the Napocor includes a never-ending pattern of rent-seeking, influence peddling, cronyism and corruption by a privileged few. This is Napocor's tale.

From 1981 to 1986, Napocor accounted for nearly half (46 percent) of the deficits of government-owned non-financial corporations. At the end of 1982, slightly over a fifth of the country's medium and long-term external debt was owed by Napocor.

The company's record since 1998 is instructive: losses that have climbed from P4 billion to P13 billion in 2000, to P34 billion in 2002. Napocor's losses further ballooned to P75 billion in 2003, and are expected to hit P114 billion this year, according to the Department of Budget and Management (See table).

By end-2003, according to the Freedom from Debt Coalition, Napocor's liabilities stood at P1.4 trillion, and were equivalent to over 40 percent of the national government debt of P3.3 trillion as of the same date.

Bataan nuclear plant
Remember the infamous Bataan Nuclear Power Plant?

The Marcos crony who brokered that deal has gotten away, himself and his loot stashed safely somewhere in Europe. The Marcos widow and heirs are back from exile, back in politics, and were even seen exchanging besos with President Macapagal-Arroyo last July.

Westinghouse, the US multinational that built the plant (which has yet to produce a single watt of electricity), has been paid twice over. And the US banks whose loans made the fraud possible have recouped their funds, with interest.

We, of course, are not as fortunate with this debt of dishonor. To this very day we are still paying for it.

If the Marcos era was illustrated by an overpriced power plant supplied by a crony with US bank finance, the Ramos era saw a mushrooming of deals that involved more multinationals and billions more of dollars (1. See Notes). New power giants such as Enron, Mirant,

Covanta and California Energy took the place of Westinghouse. Instead of a loan, Napocor ended up with overpriced Power Purchase Agreements with these independent power producers (IPPs). As in the Bataan case, income and profits were guaranteed whether or not they produced electricity.

Former President Fidel Ramos misled us, when he promised not a single centavo would be shelled out for the PPA contracts with the IPPs. He knew—we did not—that the contracts contained clauses that guaranteed the profits of these IPPs. He knew—we did not—that the normal business risks of a peso devaluation and of a fuel price hike were to be absorbed by Napocor. He must have known—we certainly did not—that the contract price for a good number of these PPAs was higher than Napocor's own costs for a comparable generating asset.

New monster
The contracts with IPPs have created a new monster that walks like the debt, talks like the debt and moves like the debt: contingent liabilities of Napocor which were 1.6 times Napocor's debts as of end-2002.

But the bleeding continues and worse is yet to come.

In May 2002, in response to the public outcry over the purchased power adjustment in our electric bills, the President imposed a cap on what Napocor could recover from us for the contracts it had entered into with the IPPs. In short, she reduced Napocor's PPA charge from P1.25 per kilowatt hour to 40 centavos per kWh.

Thus, she reduced Napocor's revenues by 85 centavos per kWh. Anyone in business will know that when one's revenues fall by 85 centavos per kWh, one ought to find a way to reduce costs by at least as much, to avert a disastrous bottom line. The opportunity to do so was via the renegotiation of Napocor's contracts with the IPPs, following the review of these contracts by an Inter-Agency Committee headed by then Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho.

Renegotiated contracts
Unfortunately, all the Arroyo administration succeeded in renegotiating was 9 centavos per kWh. Take note: The savings of 9 centavos per kWh are in terms of present value, so the marginal improvement on Napocor's costs would not even be immediately felt. And if an independent assessment were made of each of these renegotiated contracts, (2) no doubt the savings claim of 9 centavos per kWh could be legitimately questioned.

But we must remember one thing: The 85-centavo figure is not static. When the peso depreciates

against the dollar, when the cost of imported coal, fuel oil, etc., goes up, when Napocor's credit rating falls or world interest rates go up, then that 85-centavo figure correspondingly expands. This is another reason why the administration should have targeted a cost reduction of more than 85 centavos per kWh when it sat at the table with the IPPs to renegotiate the PPAs.

So a cap on the PPA recovery of Napocor, plus bungled and ineffective renegotiations with IPPs—actions which only President Arroyo has herself to blame—are resulting in lower revenues for Napocor and rising costs (See table).

A third, even more damning decision of the President will further sink Napocor's losses to new depths this year. In 2003, in exchange for a P20 billion "settlement" that will be collected from us consumers again, the administration allowed Manila Electric Co. (Meralco) to renege on its contract to buy electricity from Napocor.

Think of it this way: Napocor's main markets are distribution utilities, and the biggest utility with the biggest market is Meralco. Meralco's franchise is equivalent to about 70 percent of the national market for electricity. With the go signal from the President, Napocor lost its biggest client, on which it was relying for a significant chunk of its earnings (3).

Meralco had a contract to purchase electricity from Napocor. But since the time of Mario Tiaoqui, energy secretary of the Estrada administration, Meralco had been trying to get out of this contract. It finally succeeded with Ms. Arroyo.

Overcontracted power
In an interview with a business daily in December 2002, Secretary Perez said that Meralco had "overcontracted power from its own IPPs," which is why Meralco wanted out of its contract with Napocor.

Secretary Perez further explains: "The position of PSALM (Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp.) is that this is a contract that is valid and that Meralco should respect this contract. The contract provides that Meralco can reduce its offtake from Napocor in any economic slowdown, which indeed there is, but provided that it does not reduce its offtake from Napocor and give it to its IPPs." (Business World, Dec. 2, 2002)

Yet, this appears to be precisely the outcome of the deal with President Arroyo.

This is why Napocor's rates have been increased.

A price increase creates the illusion that the problem is solved.

But we all know, starting with the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant, that it is unjust to solve a problem by socializing the burden of privatized gains. Moreover, economists and technocrats, the keepers of the neoliberal flame, would like us to believe that having raised power rates and privatized Napocor, the bleeding is stopped. It doesn't take a PhD to know that this isn't true.

Nor will the privatization of Napocor end the culture of rent-seeking, influence peddling and of passing the buck to the government at our expense. It will just make available Napocor's assets at bargain basement prices to those very actors who have profited from this culture. Upon its privatization Napocor may disappear from the government scene, but its culture will thrive and will re-emerge in another entity in no time at all. That is because those responsible for its bleeding have been rewarded over and over again, while we are told to brace ourselves and bear the burden of painful power rate hikes in the months to come.

We didn't learn our lesson from the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant 20 years ago. We should start waking up now.

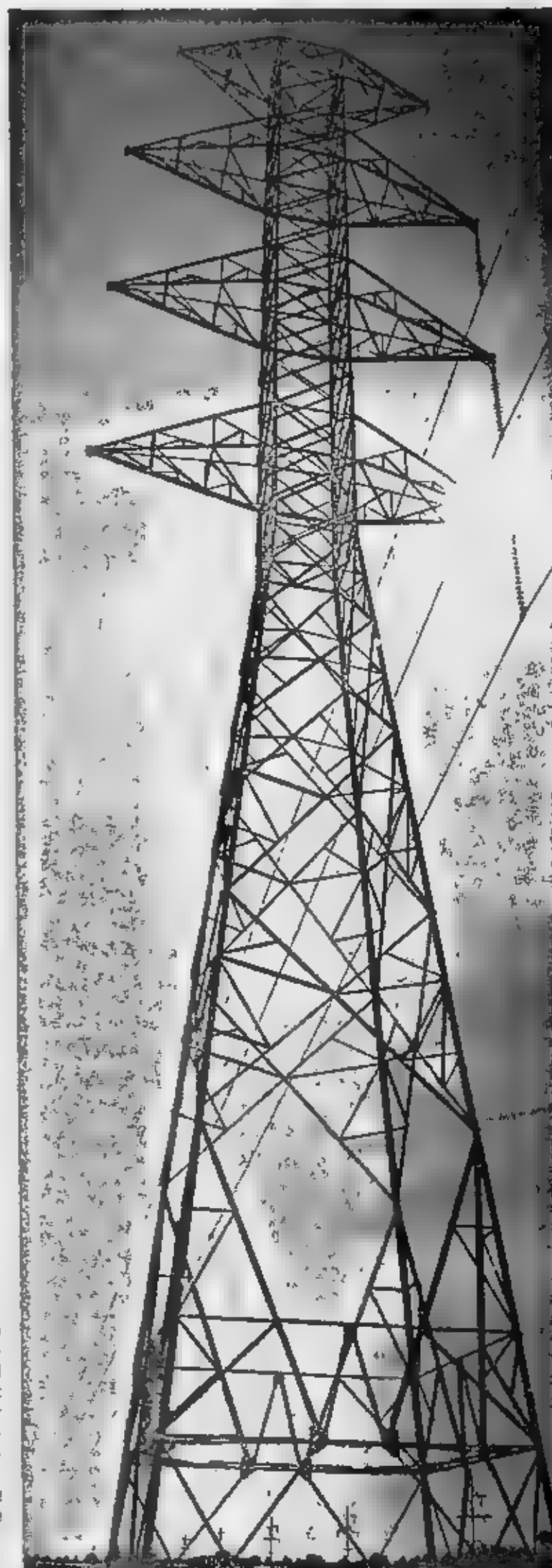
Notes:

1. As of end-2002 Napocor's lease obligations to the IPPs stood at approximately \$11 billion. Compare this with the \$1.2-billion Bataan Nuclear Power Plant.

2. Although the government refuses to fully disclose the renegotiations, I have seen one such renegotiation.

3. At the end of 2002 Meralco owed Napocor P14.1 billion, including penalties, for power that it had contracted to buy from Napocor but which it refused to pay for Napocor in fact provided a 10 percent allowance for bad debts for this penalty, in its income statement.

(Maitet Diokno-Pascual has a master of science from the London School of Economics)



Napocor Finances (in thousand pesos)

Item		1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Gross Revenues	97,705,512	99,143,971	116,593,323	135,746,133	130,972,917	98,185,609	81,360,259
-Operating	86,611,156	89,685,666	100,119,415	115,697,654	116,433,458	81,632,037	74,922,254
-Non-Operating	11,095,356	9,458,305	16,473,907	21,048,479	14,539,459	16,533,572	8,438,005
Expenditures	101,323,763	105,097,330	129,567,090	147,123,523	164,707,962	173,351,322	195,250,907
Net Income (Loss)	(3,617,251)	(5,953,359)	(12,963,768)	(10,377,391)	(33,735,046)	(75,185,713)	(113,890,648)
Corporate Borrowings	not available	not available	21,063,256	17,477,453	80,248,029	137,046,940	167,577,213

SOURCES: Commission on Audit-audited annual reports of Napocor, Department of Budget and Management
Data on Corporate Borrowings of Napocor came from Budget of Expenditures and Sources of Financing, Chapter E

Right to subsistence and development has priority over debt payment

By Fr. Aloysius L. Cartagena
Rector, Seminario Mayor
de San Carlos, Cebu City

As leaders who are conscious of their duty to provide the moral compass much needed in this difficult times, it was somehow expected that the call for every Filipino to share in the sacrifices needed to avoid economic collapse would come from the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines. By now the challenge has reawakened the moral conscience of not a few individuals and has goaded many groups into contributing to the already depleted national coffers.

But the call is timid, and the reawakening shortsighted. It may evoke a tremendous outpouring of charity and generosity, but it is too timid to fulfill the imperative of social justice. It may add some-

thing to the national purse, but it does not fundamentally confront the roots of the fiscal crisis.

But our bishops were not this always timid and shortsighted. In a statement on the foreign debt problem made public in 1990, they correctly diagnosed the debt issue as a major root of the country's increasing poverty and challenged the government to create a debt-service policy based on moral grounds. The debt crisis is, according to them, a "paramount example of a man-made disaster" that could not be met head on simply with a sound fiscal policy but must be considered within the framework of an "ethics of survival."

Ethics of survival
In an ethics of survival, one is morally bound to confront our debt repayment policy mandated by Presidential Decree 1177 and institutionalized by Executive Order 292. Like our bishops more than 10 years ago,

everyone should ask "Is it moral to place our country in a kind of prolonged serfdom, seeing that these massive annual payments only serve to further weaken not only its ability to repay these debts but the very foundations of the nation?"

The truth of the matter is "debt-servicing cannot be met at the price of the asphyxiation of a country's economy, and no government can morally demand from its people sacrifices incompatible with human dignity," thus says the Pope's council of experts on justice and peace in 1986. To that the Pope himself would add his voice in his 1991 encyclical, *Centesimus Annus*, that the fundamental right to subsistence and development has priority over the obligation to pay these debts.

In an ethics of a contract, there is a moral presumption based on justice that debts and loans should be paid as stipulated, so that whoever pays back only partially or with wrongful delay injures justice. But in an ethics

of survival, the obligation to repay, if it requires sacrifices from a people incompatible with human dignity, can be overridden if not modified.

Aside from fulfilling the requirements of social justice, the imperative of accountability must be equally served for things are disturbingly complex when debts involve huge entities such as states and global banks.

Misery

When a government borrows money from creditor banks, the citizens are neither notified of the purpose nor informed of its terms and conditions. Except for a few who may stand to benefit from the transaction, the citizens, particularly the poor, are not all involved. Yet once the terms of repayment are demanded, the citizens are required to bear the burden.

"Those who are paying it with poverty, unemployment, misery, sickness and death, do not owe it and have not been helped by it," so

the Catholic Bishops of the United States had reminded the creditor-banks, many of which are based in their country. "Why should the poor in debtor countries, who had nothing to say about accruing the debt and have little or no benefit from it, have to bear the greater burden of its payment?"

In an ethics of survival, servicing debts that have been granted at usurious rates or used to finance projects overpriced through fraudulent complicity is immoral. There is instead a moral obligation to hold those who have betrayed public trust accountable to the people.

Short memory

It is therefore a disappointment when leaders of the dominant religion of this country did not dig deep into the ethical resources of their tradition to shed light on the current fiscal crisis. It was only a little more than a decade ago when they made a bold and innovative stand, but like many of us, it seems, they have a

short memory.

While the current fiscal crisis may be a time to be generous and compassionate, it is certainly not the time for the government to squeeze more money from the poorest of the poor. It is instead a time to conclude that policies thus far implemented, among them the "automatic appropriation" of the full national budget to service the debt, have not worked for the common good.

Our crisis is another historic chance to be either the "model debtor" that we are known to be or, as Walden Bello et al. ("The UP School of Economics report: Overdue, selective, not daring enough," Sept. 5, 2004) would put it, to be "much tougher with our creditors than we have been so far." Ours is therefore another opportunity to continue putting the heavy burden solely on our poor or to include foreign creditors in the burden sharing.

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Defensor: Mining way out of crisis

TAGAYTAY CITY—Environment Secretary Michael Defensor on Friday urged key players in the mining industry and representatives of the country's indigenous peoples to conduct continuous dialogues for the speedy revitalization of the industry and to help free the country from its current financial crisis.

"From the expected initial investment of \$5 billion and potential yearly income of around \$2.3 billion from the mining industry, it is much, much higher than the P80 billion tax package of President Macapagal-Arroyo," Defensor told the participants during the closing of the two-day forum on mining and the wood industry at the Development Academy of the Philippines here.

Former environment secretary Elisea Gozun also attended the closing ceremony.

To dramatize his point, Defensor said the projected revenues from the revitalized mining industry could even humble the potential government windfalls should it pursue its plan to impose tax on cellphone's short messaging system or text message.

"It is 12 times higher than the projected tax from text messages, which may even invite another Edsa," the environment secretary said.

Defensor warned that the country's mining industry is now being left behind in the global competition and if the situation will continue, the revenue potentials from the country's rich mineral resources will itself decline.

"We all have to work together and make it faster," he stressed. Up to the early 1980s, the Philippines was a leader in the mining sector of the world, listed as one of the top five mineral producers in the world.

Twenty-five percent of the country's foreign exchange was derived from the mining industry.

Chamber report

But based on the report of the Chamber of Mines of the Philippines (CMP), the mining industry at present is at the bottom of the heap and can barely contribute two percent to the country's foreign exchange earnings.

On Jan. 16, President Macapagal-Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 270 outlining the National Policy Agenda on Revitalizing Mining in the Philippines, in line with her declared policy-shift from tolerance to promotion of mining in recognition of the economic contributions from the sector.

Benjamin Philip Romualdez, CMP president, declared the commitment of the mining sector to respect and protect the interest of the tribal peoples.

As a symbolic display of his own commitment to the indigenous peoples, Romualdez distributed a copy of his book titled, "The Mangyans of Mindoro," to DENR and National Commission



DEFENSOR speaking at the forum on mining at the DAP in Tagaytay as forum leaders including his predecessor Elisea Gozun and mining executive Benjamin Philip Romualdez look on.

on Indigenous Peoples officials.

Romualdez, also the president and chief executive officer of mining giant Benguet Corp., said he made the photo and text book when he was only 17 years old, "to get to know the culture of the Mangyans."

He urged the forum participants to hold continuous meetings, especially between the leaders of the country's tribal peoples and the mining sector as he promised to maintain close relationship with the indigenous peoples.

Defensor described the just-concluded forum as a "final breakthrough" between the officials of the CMP, NCIP, DENR and the Philippine Wood Producers Association.

"There's a lot of understanding and sharing. It helps erase the suspicions borne out of an inherent conflict between the indigenous peoples and the mining and wood industries. They have to know each other more," he said.

Tribal view

For his part, NCIP chair Reuben Dasay Lingatung said the meeting was an important step toward building a better understanding among all stakeholders.

He also urged the DENR and the NCIP to harmonize the process involved in the issuance of the "free and prior informed consent."

FPIC is the foremost requirement before any project may be introduced in any area covered by an ancestral domain as provided for in Section 59 of the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act.

It is issued by the concerned tribal community through its authorized representative upon signing of a memorandum of agreement.

Based on the report of Mines and Geosciences Bureau chief Horacio Ramos, there is an increase of activities in mining explorations this year.

The MGB reported that during the first half of the year, at least 13 mining firms had already been exploring 67,500 hectares in different parts of the country for prospects of gold, copper, nickel, silver and other minerals.

Mining industry officials said the country should have earned at least P20 billion in export revenues since 1995, if only the government had fully implemented

RA 7942 or the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, which allows foreign firms to own up to 100 percent of mining projects in the country.

But environmentalist groups have filed a petition before the Supreme Court questioning the constitutionality of RA 7942 on claims that the law would displace indigenous communities and destroy the country's natural resources.

In its decision issued exactly 11 days after the issuance of Macapagal-Arroyo's EO 270, the Supreme Court had nullified all provisions of RA 7942 concerning financial or technical assistance agreements and other permits that can be granted to foreign investors. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*



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Drug-crazed suspects kill 4 in Davao City

DAVAO CITY—At least four members of a family in Barangay Matana in Talomo District here died, while three others, including a Japanese in-law, were seriously injured when two visiting relatives attacked them with a knife and an iron pipe early morning Saturday.

Chief Insp. Vicente Danao, chief of the Talomo police station, identified the slain victims as Diosdado Lacorte, 56, an Army reservist; his wife Belinda, 47, his son-in-law Julius Belarmino, 21; and grandson Kenneth, nine-year-old.

Those being treated for varying degree of injuries were Diosdado's daughter Grace Hachiguchi and her Japanese husband Tamutso; and Julius' three-year-old daughter Carmela.

Danao said the suspects, identified only as Kim-Kim and Jongjong Balanay, were apparently high on drugs. He said the suspects bludgeoned and stabbed the victims, who were then sleeping inside their house in Larzona Subdivision.

Danao said based on the accounts of a househelp, the suspects, both residents of Governor Generoso town in Davao Oriental, arrived at the Balanays' house around midnight Friday.

As relatives, the Balanays welcomed them despite coming over in an unholy hour.

Angelina Cabrera, 17, recounted that she was awakened by a commotion but decided to stay in her room because of fear.

When the commotion was over, Cabrera went out of her room and found her masters bathed in their blood.

Neighbors later came in and helped bring the wounded victims to the hospital.

Danao said the motive of the killing could be robbery and personal grudge.

Aside from fleeing with the victims' cellphones, the suspects also took away Diosdado's .45 cal. and 9 mm pistols. *Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Typhoons bring P250M damage to roads, infra

BAGUIO CITY—Typhoons in the past two years have damaged roads and infrastructure projects in Cordillera amounting to P250 million, a French engineering consultant said.

Claude Allouche said the recent typhoons alone damaged roads worth P80 million.

He said trucks loaded with vegetables further damage the stretch of the Halsema Highway from La Trinidad to Bugas town in Benguet. Halsema Highway connects interior Cordillera to Baguio.

Landslides

He also said rains caused major landslides in five locations during the past two weeks. Rehabilitation will have to be delayed until the

weather clears, he said.

But even then, the rehabilitation of the Halsema Highway was 65 percent complete, Allouche said.

"If we go into details, 16 kilometers of previously unpaved roads were paved and 4.5 kilometers remain unpaved," he said.

He also said the concreting of walls to stop landslides is already 80 percent finished. Sixty percent of the drainage has also been completed but only a fourth of the line or side drains has been finished.

The rehabilitation of the Halsema Highway is limited to the 85-km stretch from La Trinidad to the Benguet side of Mt. Data. Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau



NINO JESUS ORBETAPDI SOUTH HERN LIZON BUREAU

BRISK SALE

The feast of the Our Lady of Peñafrancia in Naga City draws not only Catholic devotees but also vendors of assorted products, like this woman selling locally made fans.

Dumaguete becoming RP dog capital

By Alex Pal
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—Dumaguete is best described by several names.

Jose Rizal, on a stopover during his exile to Dapitan City, gave it the name "the City of Gentle People."

It is also known as a University Town, due to the presence of four universities.

It is also regarded as the motorcycle capital of the Philippines, because of the continuous top performance of motorcycle dealers here for the past several years.

Lately, however, another monicker has cropped up—the "City of Dogs."

There are just too many stray dogs in this city. For Dumaguete's population of 100,000, there should only be 5,000 dogs, according to a World Health Organization guideline.

But the City Veterinarian's Office said there were an estimated 12,000 dogs in the city and the number grows by the day.

Dog attacks

Alarmed by this scenario, Councilor Manuel Sagarbarria asked the city council to review its Anti-Rabies Ordinance. Sagarbarria said that he has received at least three complaints of dogs attacking people in different parts of the city.

City Veterinarian Lourdes Socorro assured the council that her office was doing its vaccination campaign and extermination drive, although they have several constraints.

"For one, we don't have a service vehicle so we have to wait until we can borrow a vehicle from the city," she said.

Socorro said their two dog exterminators, while they are sharpshooters, are nearing the age of 50. "Naturally, people of that age already experience deteriorating eyesight," she explained.

Another councilor, Franklin Esmena, proposed that the dog exterminators be replaced immediately with younger shooters.

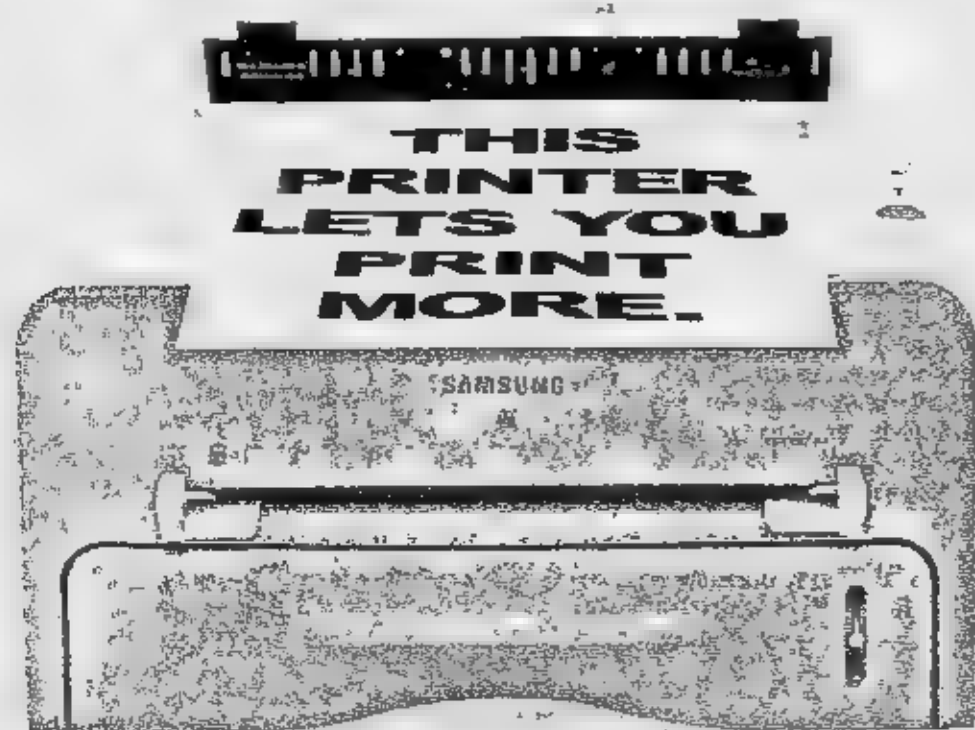
"That's a valid suggestion," chimed Councilor Rotelio Lumjod, "otherwise, they might miss the dog and shoot the owner."

Night executions

Dog exterminations are done at night every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. But while they have rid the streets of 500 stray dogs since January, Socorro herself does not feel good about it.

"We are treating sick dogs on one hand while on the other hand, we are exterminating dogs which are not exactly sick."

She suggested that perhaps, the city government could embark on an educational campaign on the virtues of pet ownership.



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Economico F. Pedrosa III, Quezon City



FLOATING STORE

A store in Sta. Ana, Pampanga appears to float in the water as floods wreak havoc in the entire province of Pampanga and the Central Luzon region.

RUDY ESPERAS/PHOTO

Crisis threatens disaster training programs, plans

BAGUIO CITY—The fiscal crisis is threatening the implementation of disaster management programs of various government agencies and the private sector, according to participants of a regional workshop here of the Task Force for the Security of Critical Infrastructures (TFSCI).

Dr. Manuel Quirino, chief of the Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center's emergency response team, said the city needs a mass casualty management system that include training in disaster response and a reliable communication system.

"The problem is that PD 1566 (Presidential Decree 1566 or the Disaster Control Act) does not provide money for training," Quirino said.

The Office of Civil Defense in the Cordillera also said the local calamity fund (5 percent of the estimated revenues of local governments), as stated in the Local Government Code, is no longer enough for disaster relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Vicente Tomazar, OCD Cordillera director, said the calamity fund is not enough considering that typhoons now are getting stronger.

Depleted funds

"After Typhoon 'Igme' (in July) and the other succeeding typhoons, the 5-percent (calamity fund of various local governments) allotted this year is almost used up," Tomazar said.

He said with the proposed reduction of the internal revenue allotment (IRA) of LGUs, re-

maining funds for disaster management would be inadequate.

Despite limited funds, Dr. Manuel Factora, BGHMC chief, said the hospital came out with a 24-hour hospital emergency response plan after the city was hit by a 7.8 magnitude earthquake in 1990.

Telecommunications firms, whose facilities are among those considered as "critical infrastructures," have been getting the help of barangays to secure their properties.

Feliciano Ramones, Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) security chief for Northern Luzon, said they launched the Cablewatch 164 project early this year to secure their facilities from cable thieves.

"But it seemed that we have to re-launch this program again," he said, adding that PLDT recorded four cases of cable theft in Baguio from July to August this year.

More security guards

Noel Romara, Smart Wireless Center manager here, said they decided to hire additional security guards to secure their transmission towers in the region.

"Securing" the security guards is also the problem of commercial banks in Baguio City.

Lorna Marcos, head of the Baguio-Benguet Bankers Association, said they needed to be assured that the security guards they get were

not from fly-by-night agencies.

"After all, we are fully dependent on our security forces," Marcos said.

She said they also provide the guards' regular training in emergency situations.

Defense Undersecretary Abraham Purugganan, who heads the TFSCI, said they have signed a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Health to hold emergency response training in the regions.

Purugganan also asked the Philippine Association of Detective and Protective Agency Operators (Padpao) to raise the qualifications of security guards, especially those assigned to critical infrastructures.

Purugganan had earlier said the country remains a strong target of terrorism despite President Macapagal-Arroyo's decision to give in to the demand of terrorists in Iraq. *Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Baguio, Thai city join hands in plan to cut energy use

BAGUIO CITY—The city government's solution to the country's budget deficit and an energy crisis is not a mere peso in a Bayanihan Fund savings account, but investments in energy saving measures.

Mayor Braulio Yaranon signed on Wednesday an agreement with the city of Chiang Mai in Thailand to share alternative energy programs that are dedicated to reducing fuel consumption.

Chiang Mai Mayor Boonlert Buranapakorn's administration is developing a biological diesel that uses vegetable oil, but Thailand is also interested in the Philippines' coconut methyl ester (coco fuel) additive, said Victor Aquitania, the Baguio planning officer supervising environmental programs.

President Macapagal-Arroyo earlier urged government officials to use coco fuel in government vehicles this year.

Yaranon said the projects could cut down electricity and oil consumption in Baguio substantially to reduce its contribution to the national budget deficit.

The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (Iclei) aided the Baguio-Chiang Mai agreement.

UN commitment

Iclei is advocating the Philippines' commitments to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. This is the United Nations-backed document, which seeks a radical reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from at least 166 countries within a prescribed period to fight the destruction of the ozone layer.

Iclei is also supervising the Cines for Climate Protection (CCP) program, where Baguio is cited for piloting the coco fuel program in the country.

Pamela Gailares Oppus, Iclei regional manager for Southeast Asia, said the Baguio-Chiang Mai agreement could point Baguio to ways by which it can tap technological and financial resources of its sisterhood city ties with Asian or European countries to fund its environmental projects.

But Aquitania is focusing on

"carbon trading" projects. The UN climate control convention tapped major economies, like Canada or the European Union, to buy every kilogram of carbon monoxide emissions that is reduced by smaller nations, which use energy saving mechanisms.

Rongrong Duriyapunt, Chiang Mai's CCP coordinator, and the Thailand Environmental Institute pointed to a "carbon trading" transaction with San Francisco in the United States, which funds some of Thailand's ecological programs.

Gas reduction

According to a briefing paper, Chiang Mai is testing bio-diesel on some of its public utility vehicles called *songtaew* (pick-up trucks modified into mass transport vehicles), but the Thai City is also undertaking power reduction practices for its municipal offices.

The document said Chiang Mai is also pursuing the restoration of its "non-motorized transport," or the use of bicycles, rickshaws or carts in its major highways to completely reduce the city's greenhouse gas target emissions by 15 percent in 2012.

Aquitania said the previous city administration had pegged Baguio's reduction targets to 10 percent by 2010. Lined up among Baguio's energy-saving measures is the conversion of its only landfill into a methane-to-electricity conversion plant, and the modification of its abattoir into a P36,000 biogas plant that could supply power to the facility.

Baguio is also planning the replacement of its concrete pavements with bricks to a low run-off rainwater to replenish its aquifer.

The city government is encouraging building owners to develop rooftop gardens to increase the downtown areas' natural shield against carbon monoxide emissions, Aquitania said.

But he said the city's energy program is also "socially oriented."

Yaranon, according to Aquitania, is offering a livelihood swap program to barangays that are willing to nurture new forest areas or reforestation nurseries. *Vincent Cabreja, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Slain tiller's brother sues Army soldiers

DAVAO CITY—Thirty-two soldiers, including an Army sergeant, were charged Friday with allegedly murdering a Moro farmer and his pregnant wife during a raid in a village in Tagum City in Davao del Norte on Wednesday.

The complaint was filed by Talib Japalali, elder brother of Bakar Japalali, 37, before the city prosecutor's office in Tagum City. In his complaint, Japalali said his brother and Carmelita were sleeping inside their house in Barangay Bingcungan on the evening of Aug. 8 when soldiers from the Army's 404th Infantry Battalion based in Compostela Valley arrived.

Japalali said he lives near his brother's house and saw the arrival of the soldiers.

He said the soldiers fired their weapons without provocation. When the soldiers left, he said Bakar was found dead inside the couple's room while Carmelita was found slumped near the lattered door.

The Task Force Detainees of the Philippines (TFDP) in Davao said other witnesses supported Japalali's claim that Bakar and Carmelita were murdered by the soldiers, led by a Sgt. Jerry Napoles.

TFDP said the other witnesses also live near the victims' house.

In a statement, the TFDP said Osmatic Ladia and Rosalin Padama also executed affidavits before Prosecutor Manicris Colon-Reyes of Tagum City. They said after firing on the couple's house, the soldiers al-

so opened fire at their houses but missed them.

Col. Agane Adriano, military spokesperson for South-eastern Mindanao, earlier said Talib, a Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebel and his wife were killed during a 10-minute encounter with 25 dissidents in Barangay Bingcungan.

He said the soldiers recovered firearms after the clash.

The MILF denied Talib was a member and said he belonged to the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson, said the death of the couple was probably triggered by a land dispute they had with another farmer.

Kabalu said by all indications, the death of the couple was plain murder.

Adriano said they were already expecting that a controversy would arise from the encounter.

He said as far as the military is concerned, there was a gunfight and the rebel was killed during the clash.

But Japalali maintained there was no encounter.

He also denied the military's claim his brother belonged to the MILF or any rebel group.

Japalali said Bakar was an ordinary farmer and had no criminal records.

Danilo Reyes, spokesperson of the TFDP, said they were assisting the victims' relatives in pursuing the case against the soldiers. *Jefrey Tupus and Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

E. Visayas' most wanted slain in gunfight

MAASIN CITY—The most wanted man in Eastern Visayas was killed in a gunfight with policemen after he resisted arrest in San Ricardo town on Pananon Island, 150 km from here, at 1:30 p.m.

Killed was Reynaldo Cabugao, of Mabini Street, Ormoc City, an ex-rebel but man who had been long wanted for a string of murder cases, including those of five policemen.

Recovered from Cabugao was a .45 cal. pistol he grabbed from his police escort when he escaped in Surigao City on Thursday.

Supt. Alfredo Sabornido, Southern Leyte police director said Cabugao, who had been arrested on Thursday in Surigao City, was escorted by Surigao police for supposed medical treatment at a hospital there when he grabbed the handgun of his escort and fled.

He was later reported to have taken a motorized boat bound for San Ricardo, a town on Pananon Island.

Sabornido said the Surigao police immediately tipped them off of Cabugao's escape.

Jani Arriola, Visayas Bureau



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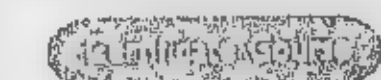
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INQUIRER *Mindanao*

Hard life for hard-hitting broadcasters

By Germelina Lacorte
Davao City

BATTLE-SCARRED radio broadcaster Ferdie Lintuan has survived three attempts on his life, but up to this day, he remains unfazed. Scathing remarks on the air, he says, is the only way for broadcasters to live.

"In broadcasting, you have to be brutal," says Lintuan, 48, showing the shrapnel scars on his legs. "If you

come in too softly, no one will listen to you."

At least 56 broadcast and print journalists have been killed since democracy was restored in the Philippines in 1986 after the fall of the Marcos dictatorship, according to media organizations.

Reality

In 1974, Lintuan narrowly escaped death during a shoot-out with members of a "military lost command" somewhere in Davao Oriental. His companion was killed.

About 13 years later, he survived an

attack by communist rebels on his radio station dzRA in Davao City. But five of his companions—an announcer, reporter, technician and two visitors—died.

Irked by his scathing anticommunist remarks on the air, a New People's Army liquidation squad riddled with bullets the radio station where Lintuan was anchoring an anticommunist program.

Lintuan said death threats were risks that radio people must face if they were to earn in the business. "Kung mag-in-day-in-day ka, way maminaw nimo (If you go soft, no one will listen to you.)"

The hard-hitting commentator now has a morning radio program on radio dzOW in Davao City. The program is called "Lugas-Paka," a Cebuano term which refers to a sudden burst of gunfire at the slightest pull of the trigger.

"If there were NPA hit squads before, we have the vigilante killings now," he said.

Grim reality

Lintuan's situation is the grim reality confronting all radio announcers.

Radio has always been a "rating" game, says Nelson Cañete, who anchors radio dxGM's "Mister Balita." He says:

"Every radio announcer's survival depends on the kind of program he airs."

"As an announcer," he adds, "you have to study closely what your listeners want."

Judging from the results of independent surveys conducted among radio stations each year, hard-hitting commentaries, aside from soap operas, are the stuff that make ratings soar. "Give them purely professional radio programming and they'll fall asleep," Cañete says.

So, in order to sell, a broadcaster must adopt a hard-hitting stance. But doing so sometimes places his life on the line.

Death threats, says radio dxAB's Stephen Manangan, are common fare among broadcasters. Yet, they are not given assurance that in times of trouble, their own network will back them up, he says.

Is it worth it?

"Sometimes, I [wonder] if it's worth sticking it out in this profession," Manangan says. "If something happens to you, you do not have assurance that somebody will take care of your family, give scholarships to your children."

"You comment at your own risk," says Lintuan, whose hospitalization expenses after the NPA attack on his radio station was shouldered by police authorities.

"The network will only be there for you in case of libel. If you make enemies on the air, when someone comes stalking outside, you're on your own," he said.

In Davao City, over 22 radio stations compete for listeners, and this somehow leads to stiffer competition, says Cañete. "The approval of more franchises has polluted the airwaves, ushered in the entry of nonprofessionals and even increased competition among the radio stations."

Some of the stations only pay their announcers as low as P500 a month, forcing most of them to look for "other income sources" elsewhere. These range from buying "block time," or the practice of paying the radio station for airtime and selling it to sponsors and advertisers, to the outright questionable practice known in the industry as "AC-DC" (attack and collect, defend and collect) or attacking personalities on the air, just to collect fees to keep quiet.

"Since the pay is not enough, some resort to this unscrupulous practice (AC-DC), which eventually gets back at them," adds Manangan, who anchors dxAB's morning commentary "Banat."

Cañete says it's easier for some people to harass journalists because they are not organized.

Silent enemies

Since his days in Bombo Radyo, Cañete has grown accustomed to the death threats. But he's more afraid of those who never say a word than those who do.

Manangan says he is used to receiving death threats, through mobile phone text messages and the telephone. "In every issue you take, you have to gauge whether your network is going to back you up on this one or just leave you out in the cold," he says.

The most that broadcasters do, he says, is to strike a balance in their commentaries. "We just let the callers speak, and yet, you can't help hurting people, too."

"You won't know the personalities you have provoked. Most of the time, they're just keeping quiet in the corner," says Cañete. "As more stations compete, they're setting aside quality programming, as long as the program sells."

"These days, we're telling each other, 'Let's start playing love songs,'" says Manangan. "But what will happen if all the people hear on the radio are love songs?"

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ABOUT 200 journalists staged a protest rally outside Camp Crame in Quezon City, denouncing the recent killings of fellow journalists.

Senate wants to limit local, foreign borrowings

From page A1

media forum that he had refilled a bill which proposes a limit on domestic and foreign borrowings for the next five to 10 years to ensure that debt service payments continued to be affordable within the context of budget priorities.

"Debt servicing has been eating a substantial portion of the annual government budget," Drilon said during the weekly Kapihan sa Sullo forum. "Because of mandatory interest payments, there is little room for expenditures in the national budget for urgent social and physical infrastructures needed to stimulate the economy."

Debt service payments in absolute amounts and as a percentage of the total budget have increased dramatically starting in 1998, Drilon noted.

Surge in expenses

From P78 billion or 15.9 percent of expenditures in 1997, interest payments surged to P175 billion or 24.6 percent in 2001. In 2003, the amount reached P223 billion or 28 percent of the total budget.

Under his proposed "Debt Cap Act," which Drilon introduced earlier during the 12th Congress, within five years of its enactment, the consolidated outstanding debt of the national government and of government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) shall not exceed an amount equivalent to 100 percent of the country's gross national product (GNP).

Senate Bill No. 1118 also proposes that within another five years and thereafter, said outstanding debts shall not exceed 80 percent of the country's gross domestic product (GDP).

In 2001, the national government debt was estimated at P288 trillion, or 79.1 percent of the GDP. As of August this year, this has reached P33 trillion, Drilon said.

"Being realistic, you cannot stop borrowing. This is precisely the purpose of a debt cap bill in order to impose a limitation on the authority of the Department of Finance to borrow," he said.

Fiscal discipline

If enacted into law, the bill is expected to maintain the government debt within levels that will balance the interests of present and future generations and will preserve the ability of the government to access future resources at reasonable terms, he stressed.

"There is a need for the government to adopt fiscal discipline in all areas of government operations. The government should live within its means by minimizing deficit spending to levels that will ensure fiscal sustainability," Drilon said.

Since the government cannot default in the payments of its debts, escalating debt service payments in the General Appropriations Act have effectively crowded out expenditures for social services and physical infrastructures, he said.

Drilon said the passage of the Debt Cap Act was imperative due to the runaway fiscal deficit, owing to the debts incurred by GOCCs, particularly the National Power Corp.

Napocor has a total debt of P1.4 trillion, or over 30 percent of the national government debt of P33 trillion. Its losses this year are expected to reach P115 billion.

Abolition of GOCCs

The Cabinet will meet on Monday to discuss sweeping management changes and the possible abolition of GOCCs which have drained the national government of billions of pesos in subsidies and fat paychecks.

In an interview over dzRH, Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said he expected the Department of Finance and the Department of Budget and Management to come up with their assessment on who among the government representatives on the boards and management of GOCCs would be replaced or reappointed.

Malacañang earlier said it would not hesi-

tate to lock out government nominees on the boards of GOCCs who did not heed the President's call to slash their fat salaries and perks.

"We will appeal directly to the board of directors of GOCCs. If they cannot be persuaded then the only solution is to replace those who do not cooperate," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye in an interview with dzMM radio.

Budget Secretary Emilia Boncodin reported that the directors and top management of GOCCs had ignored Ms. Arroyo's call to slash their compensation and bonuses since 2001.

In a briefing, Bunye said the President was firm on cutting down the expenses of GOCCs and she expected them to cooperate. "The President has the power to appoint and she also has the power to fire anyone in the GOCCs," Bunye said.

"If the national government, if some LGUs, if some members of Congress are prepared to sacrifice, GOCCs should likewise share the burden," Bunye said. "The idea is all government agencies must take part in our austerity measures and we expect the GOCCs, through their respective boards, would be responsible and heed the President's call."

Sinking popularity

As this developed, Malacañang yesterday said President Arroyo was not in danger of being ousted from power in the face of her sinking popularity and the strong perception that she cheated in the recent elections.

"We have our problems, but we also have our bright spots. I think what Senator (Serge) Osmeña said (about the President being overthrown due to her sinking popularity) was far fetched and has no basis," Bunye said in an interview with RMN radio.

Malacañang blamed the fiscal crisis for the President's poor showing in the Aug. 5 to 22 survey by the Social Weather Stations where her performance rating plunged to 12 points from 26 points the previous month. But it was only on Aug. 23, the day after the survey was taken, that the President declared the country was in a fiscal crisis.

Bunye said that investor confidence would be boosted if at least one of the tax measures being pushed by President Macapagal-Arroyo were to be approved by Congress.

Osmeña had warned Friday that the President could be ousted from power because of the people's growing disenchantment over her incompetence and tolerance of corruption.

Bunye cited the robust economic growth in the first half of this year and a resurgent stock market which hit a four-year high last week among the bright spots in the President's administration.

He said that "once Congress can get together for at least a major vital tax measure, investor confidence will rise considerably."

The Palace is pushing for eight revenue measures to raise P80 billion for the government coffers.

No to taxes

But in Congress, Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Satur Ocampo yesterday urged President Arroyo to reverse her liberal trade policies instead of imposing new and higher taxes.

Ocampo said new taxes ought to be imposed instead on foreign goods, except oil and rice, as one of the quickest ways to raise government revenues and to put the country back on its feet again.

"The influx of foreign goods due to reduced tariffs, which has driven many medium and small local entrepreneurs out of business and has caused massive unemployment, is now driving the government out of business, too," Ocampo said.

He said the lowering of tariffs on imports had proven to be one major factor for the sudden reduction in government earnings.

Ocampo cited official data which showed that the government reduced tariffs on agricultural products by 45.6 percent and on industrial products by 65.3 percent between 1994 and 2001, resulting in estimated annual losses of P100 billion. Tina Santos, Michael Lim Ubac, Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Cynthia D. Balana



BUSUEGO



MIGUEL



SINOLINDONG



PADILLA



DOROTAN

Five doctors who followed their dreams

From page A1

ject, a special project of the Kabacan Polymedic Cooperative Hospital in North Cotabato to address the alarming rate of avoidable blindness.

Since then, he and his team have served close to 6,000 people afflicted with eye ailments.

"This is my life's work," he said. "This is the reason I am here. I like to think of myself as a doctor for everybody. My objective is not to see people get blind just because they are poor."

Some have disparaged Sinolindong's charity project, saying it prevented other ophthalmologists from charging the "right" amount for their delicate work. But he forges

"I believe we leave nothing in this world but a trail—a trail for others to follow or to broaden," he said.

Holistic approach

Like Sinolindong, internist Dr. Editha C. Miguel of the University of the Philippines passed up the chance to go to the United States and pursue the so-called American Dream.

Instead, she used her talent, time and effort to address the acute health needs of rural folk.

In 1986, Miguel and seven other volunteer doctors traveled to her native Palawan and to Leyte under the Agape Rural Program of the Rural Ministry of the Campus Crusade for Christ to "share God's love through action."

At least 50,000 persons have been given medical and dental care and taught preventive health care under the program. Palawan residents, for instance, were taught how to test themselves for the malaria parasite to ensure that they were getting the right medication.

But more than the medical care, Miguel and her group addressed livelihood and social problems in the rural areas by building potable water systems and providing training in natural farming and livestock raising.

"I believe that if you want to institute change, the approach should be holistic, and if you want to truly make an impact, you must concentrate on the rural areas where the need is so large," she said.

Miguel said she had encouraged many fellow doctors, especially graduates of the UP-Philippine General Hospital, to serve in rural communities before thinking of working overseas because the Filipino people shouldered part of their education expense.

"I tell them there is so much that they can do for the country, like lending their expertise to the rural people. Of course, you can't stop them from leaving if they want to, but at least they can share at least a little," she said.

Fortunately, many young doctors joined her and her team, and ended up staying.

"I believe that if you challenge the graduates and provide them an avenue to express their patriotism, their

love for country and their fellow man, they will help," she said.

Miguel has set her sights on taking the program to other provinces such as Cagayan and Nueva Ecija, living on little more than a desire to heed God's call to help others.

"If you see people change and communities become better, you will say that there's hope for the Philippines and a lot of opportunities to share the goodness of God," she said.

Passion for service

Nutritionist Florencia C. Dorotan of Irosin, Sorsogon, found the opportunity to do good in the People's Health Program Toward Integral Human Development, one of the programs of the Lingap Para sa Kalusugan ng Sambayanan, a nongovernment organization that she helped found.

Dorotan has been involved in social action since her UP days, primarily through the UP Student Catholic Action.

There she found her passion for service, which she first expressed in the remote barangays of Tagaytay, where she and her group saw many cases of tuberculosis.

Because they lacked knowledge, most of the patients considered the disease a death sentence. They did not seek medication and did not even dare venture from their homes.

Dorotan and her group spread the word on health and disease prevention, particularly on TB. She encouraged the patients to seek treatment, telling them that TB was a curable disease if diagnosed early enough.

From focusing on an integrated, area-based development program covering health care, the program proponents spread their work to include caring for the environment, agrarian reform and rural governance and cooperative organizing.

Among their projects are food production, building of artesian wells and toilets, nutrition education including breast-feeding, and making supplementary cereals out of mungo, rice and corn.

"We realized that it is not just about health," Dorotan said. "We have to help them put food on their table and give them jobs. One of the reasons 40 percent of Filipinos die without seeing a doctor is that they can't afford it. I've always said health is a basic human right, but it has become a commodity."

Helping rural folk gain access to that commodity is Dorotan's mission. "It's quite a feeling to see hope again in the community's eyes," she said.

Closer to the poor

Dr. Romulo A. Busuego, a surgeon, literally brings medical services closer to the poor by bringing mobile surgical clinics to the countryside.

Busuego, chief of the Davao Regional Hospital in Tagum, Davao del Norte, conceptualized and organized

the Surgical Networking Extension Program (SNEP) in 1989 because the thought of being confined within the four walls of the operating room bothered him.

"It has always been my dream to expand my work... outside the hospital, where there is a dire need for surgical services. My vision is to make our surgical experience available to more people," he said.

For the past 15 years, the SNEP has conducted 118 surgical networking activities, serving more than 16,000 people in the Davao, Socargen and Caraga regions.

Operations include treatment for hernia and thyroid problems and soft-tissue tumors.

The SNEP gives the poor access to free surgical services. The local government units pitch in by shouldering part of the cost. The local health workers gain valuable knowledge in treating patients.

"What is amazing is that the collaboration [among us] was institutionalized for the good of the people," Busuego said.

Like the other Heroes for Health, Busuego maintains a private practice although his work at the SNEP takes up much of his time.

"Maybe I'm crazy, but I believe that I was able to do enough for myself so that I would have time and resources for others who need it more," he said.

He never thought the SNEP would become as big a project as it is now, garnering awards for its concept, when he started in 1989. It was just a dream that he was bent on fulfilling.

"Now I say, don't let go of your dream. Pursue it. Then if you get it, you can dream some more," he said.

'People still care'

For eye specialist Dr. Dominga B. Padilla, the dream was to give sight to indigent Filipinos needing a corneal transplant.

Her own eyes were opened to the sad plight of people waiting for corneas when she was a resident at the UP-PGH.

"We had a lot of patients who were blind because of measles," Padilla said. "All they needed was a cornea for them to see again. It made me feel so helpless and frustrated that I was not able to help them."

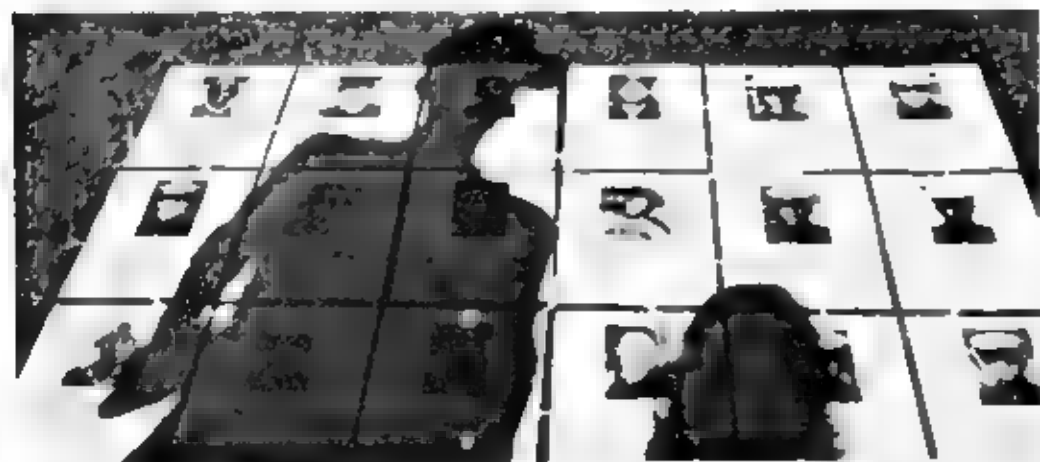
There were more years of frustration because she did not immediately get the cooperation that she needed to realize her dream of setting up an eye bank.

Finally, the Santa Lucia International Eye Bank of Manila was set up at the Makati Medical Center in 1994.

The eye bank is a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week facility that collects, processes, stores and distributes high-quality eye tissues. It has provided eye tissues to thousands of indigent patients nationwide for free, and many have regained their sight because of it.

"When you help, you reach the poor that people still care," Padilla said. "It's about faith, that people are still willing to help them even if in these times, it is getting harder to do good and still survive."

Troubled children of 9/11: Legacy of loss



SHADOWS of a grown-up and a child fall on the "Honor the Fallen" memorial at New York's Union Square Park on the eve of the third anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States. The memorial contains the names and pictures of more than 1,000 US soldiers killed in Iraq.

From page A1

well-worn images of towers falling and planes crashing, but the deeply intimate, devastating scenes of a parent's death.

"It was seeing my dad die over and over again," said Sarah Van Aiken, 15, whose father, Kenneth Van Aiken, worked at Cantor Fitzgerald. New York Times News Service

BALINESE ROOF SHAKES

(Do you want an Asian design for your house?)

More homebuilders are now turning their eyes on designs that capture the natural beauty of the shores, hills and forests of Southeast Asia.

Some call this design Balinese, others Tropical Asian.

Multi-Line now has the roofing material exactly for this design—MetroShake. It's not tiles, for that would look Japanese, Spanish

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Simply Creative

Soon on your cellphones: Chinese 'text-novelas'

From page A1

short-message novel, a new literary genre for the harried masses in a society that seems to be redefining what it means to be harried.

As a critically acclaimed writer of dense,

doorstop-sized novels, Qian said he had finally developed a guilty conscience.

Moreover, as a writer in a country that tends not to pay its authors very well, he faced

a challenge immediately familiar to writers everywhere: how to make a living cranking out prose.

Now, at the age of 42, the author thinks he

has found a solution to both problems.

Weighing in at a mere 4,200 words, "Out of the Fortress" will be published for its audience of cell phone readers at a bite-sized 70 characters at a time—including spaces and punctuation marks—in two daily installments.

Other "readers" may choose to place a call to the "publisher," hurray.com, a short-message distribution company, to listen to a recording of each day's story as it unfolds. All this for a small fee charged, like any text message, directly to the readers' mobile phone accounts.

Thinking for readers

"When I worked in advertising, I learned to think for the customers, and as a writer, I have learned to think for the readers," the author, whose real name is He Xingman, said in an interview on Friday.

"In this age, with a flood of information, I thought it was cruel to force readers to wrestle with a 200,000-word book."

The idea of publishing his book by telephone evolved naturally, said He. "My last book, 'Red Horse,' was published on Sina.com in installments, and I found it very comfortable to read it online. I thought with the change of technology there could be new ways of reading, and then I thought of my cell phone, because I am a huge cell phone fan. It has become an indispensable electronic organ for me."

It will become an important source of income, too.

With the publication of "Out of the Fortress," He has become a media star. He said he received an advance of more than \$20,000, for the book from hurray.com.

Marketing

He said his book was about "two people who have a passionate affair, which is not supported by morality or law, but is very understandable."

Though others will dispute whether he truly invented the short-message novel form, He had an understanding of how fast cell phones are changing life here, and a keen grasp of marketing.

In addition to providing the usual functions, like e-mail, Web surfing, restaurant reservations, dating, and global positioning-aided directions and maps for the lost that are already commonplace in East Asia, China's mobile phone world has become the latest frontier of individual enterprise. *New York Times News Service*

Enchanted celebrations for free!

There are times when memorable moments are made in corporate gatherings. Strong and unshakable bonds of friendship are formed during company outings, seminars, team building sessions, or even just brainstorming efforts. And those moments become extra special when they are held at an equally unforgettable venue. When this happens, both management and staff long to have their next event at that exact same place. The same goes with birthday celebrations. A once-in-a-year event deserves to have an equally unique experience.

Enchanted Kingdom, the first and only world-class theme park in the country, gives corporate clients and birthday celebrants the chance to treat themselves to another event at the Park for free. Yes, that's right. For free!

Too good to be true? Actually, it's all true. And good for corporations, associations and birthday celebrants which have booked, fully paid and consumed their tickets from September 1 to December 21, 2004. With Enchanted Kingdom's Blowout Blast Promo, they get a chance to win their next outing or birthday party at the park for free. Simply combine a total of P10,000 worth of Enchanted Kingdom admission tickets, Wizard Money merchandise and meals to receive one raffle coupon. Only one lucky winner gets the prize - another Enchanted Kingdom corporate gathering or birthday celebration with the same value as their original booking package by way of our tickets and Wizard Money.

Take note, however, that only bookings covered by a signed contract are qualified to join the raffle. Once the booking is fully paid and settled, the raffle coupon will be released to the client's official representative.

So book your visit now to experience twice the fun only at Enchanted Kingdom!



ENCHANTED KINGDOM'S BLOWOUT BLAST PROMO

From September 1 to December 21, 2004, get a chance to win another celebration for free! Treat it as a gift on our 10th year anniversary!

Open to all company, birthday, association and government bookings. One (1) raffle coupon issued for every P20,000 combined purchases of admission tickets, wizard money, merchandise items and meals.

By now that was indeed an idea! For only from authorized ticket outlets Makati Sales Office, Park Front Gate and Fishmarket outlets. For more information call 8300-1111 or 843-0075 to 78 or visit www.enchantedkingdom.com.ph

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Desk Editors Cenon B. Bibe, Ester G. Dipasupil

WPD investigators want out of homicide unit

By Leila B. Salaverria

FOURTEEN Western Police District's homicide investigators asked yesterday to be transferred out of their unit.

While saying that they just want to learn new things by seeking to move to the followup unit, the unsaid reasons were more telling.

Speaking in whispers, one in-

vestigator said their move was due to difficulties on the job.

"We are always told to follow up our unsolved cases. But as investigators, we also have to take in the new cases that come in almost every day during our shift. How can we find time to do all this?" the day shift investigator said.

He said he and his colleagues were fed up with the demands

that police officials were making on them.

Officials reportedly keep on asking them for progress reports or telling them to look for new witnesses in a continuously growing number of homicide cases.

Expressing surprise and disappointment, Homicide Section chief Sr. Insp. Alberto Peco said the request was unfair and puts

the unit in a bad light.

He said it was probably politically motivated.

"I am not asking the investigators to do anything impossible," Peco told the INQUIRER yesterday.

"I just want them to follow the scientific method of continuously following up a case by looking for good leads and not giving up easily," he said.

Aglipay to name 3 new top cops in metropolis

By Tina G. Santos

NATIONAL police chief Director General Edgardo Aglipay is set to announce the appointment of three new district directors for the police in Metro Manila.

According to NCRPO chief

Director Avelino Razon, Chief Superintendents Noe Wong and Wilfredo Garcia, and Senior Supt. Nicasio Radovan would be heading the Northern Police District, Southern Police District and Central Police District, respectively.

Saving Manila forest is a work of art

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AN ANACHRONISM lying close to traffic-choked Plaza Lawton and the murky Pasig river, the green-canopied Arroceros Forest Park, is the only one of its kind in the busy capital city.

Artists have recently begun to draw inspiration from its lush landscape.

The 2.1-hectare forest park on Antonio Villegas Street (formerly Arroceros) in Ermita bravely struggles to suffuse fresh air into Manila everyday, despite an existence not as known to city dwellers and transients as the nearby giant mall a few meters down the road, or the open space of Ruzal Park.

A quiet demonstration

The artists come there for a quiet, apolitical demonstration against turning into concrete everything under your nose, as a call for the conservation of nature," said renowned still-life painter Araceli Dans, who organized her fellow artists recently for weekend painting sessions at the park.

Since the first Sunday of this month, artists from the Tuesday Group, Saturday Group and the Artists Association of the Philippines have come to paint the park's scenery—century-old trees and their rambling roots, the Pasig River and the bridges crossing it, and portraits of visitors who frequent the park.

Dans' idea was to create an artist's nook out of the linear park that the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission created in 2003, with a brick-paved, lighted path connected to the Muelle del Rio linear park in Intramuros.

Trees that have character

"Students and professional artists could come here to share ideas. The scenery is a very ideal—and accessible—subject for fine arts students too, because trees here have character," said Dans, also a fine arts consultant at the Feati University who has been painting for 67 years now.

At their first session when 25 artists came together, the 75-year-old Dans produced two paintings of the park's scenery in water color. She donated the two paintings to the Winner Foundation. She said the paintings could be sold to help the organization raise funds to sustain the forest park. In the past, the foundation held rummage sales to collect money for maintenance costs.

A tourist attraction

"Later, artists could display their paintings to attract tourists to the beauty of the park. We want to help the foundation by showing the beauty of the forest, to save it for generations to come," said Dans.

The Winner Foundation is determined to keep the Arroceros



Forest Park alive.

Cash-strapped, the park continues to grow, undaunted by the lack of government support. Every day, it opens to the public from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., offering a peaceful sanctuary for urban dwellers at no cost.

Manila's lungs

"We want to provide a lung for the city, and at the same time, also educate schoolchildren about nature, and how they should respect God's creations," said Regina Paterno, president of the foundation, an environmental organization that has been developing the forest park.

But as the foundation single-handedly tries to bring the property to life, the local school board of Manila has other plans.

With the blessing of the city government, the school board is set to build offices for the Division of City Schools, the local arm

of the education department currently holding court at the 4th floor of the Manila City Hall.

"That had always been our intention," said Manila Mayor Jose Arsenia Jr., who also heads the school board. "That's the reason why we bought it. The issue here is one of ownership. The park is owned by the teachers of Manila."

Since a decade ago, the Winner Foundation had been working to turn the Arroceros Forest Park into the city's breathing room, creating a lush forest out of a lot that had been vacated by the head office of the then Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

Official caretaker

Through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Manila city government signed on Nov. 19, 1993, the environmental organization was made the official caretaker of the park,

covering the entrance on Antonio Villegas Street near the Park 'N Ride Building to its end at the Pasig River bank with a view of the city's Sta. Cruz district.

Sold

With the MOA still in place, the city school division bought the land from the education department through its Special Education Fund, the same year the MOA was signed.

"The MOA can be terminated anytime. It's not a MOA that takes the character of a donation. It allowed them to develop the area at one point in time. I don't think there is anything wrong with the school division making use of the place now," said Arsenia.

But Paterno said that under the agreement, City Hall, through then Manila Mayor and now Sen. Alfredo Llanes, allowed the Winner Foundation to complete a 15-year forest development plan for the lot.



ARTISTS Danny Santiago (left) and Araceli Limaco Dans (above) become activists for nature as they try to save the Arroceros Forest Park in Manila. Instead of marching to City Hall, they let their brushes do the walking on canvases. In place of murals, they have paintings to raise awareness for the park.

JES YUSON

Arsenia, however, said that the construction of the school division offices would not hurt Mother Nature, as he intends to develop a botanical garden that would exist with the office building in harmony, for the "better appreciation and benefit of the public."

"I assure you, we will not destroy any centuries-old trees because we would like to develop the area also as a genuine botanical garden," Arsenia told the INQUIRER.

City Hall would lend support by taking care of the park's water supply and security.

"It was an empty lot with debris and trash before we came in," said Paterno. "But with help from other government agencies, we were able to clear it and we planted trees," Paterno said. The property was already home to some 150 trees, including several century-old hardwood narra, mahogany, sampalok and babite trees.

8,000 green population

Out of 3,500 seedlings from the Manila Seedling Bank Foundation Inc., the park now has a green population of some 8,000 trees belonging to 61 species. Among these are neem, India rubber trees, teak, molave, fire trees, kamagong, golden showers, acacia, bamboo, rattan and palm trees. Fruit-bearing trees have also grown, including santol, avocado, guava, macopa, tamarind, atis and guayabano.

The park's green blanket had also attracted birds, many of whom have made the tree branches their homes. The Haribon Foundation counted nine species of birds known to be nesting on the park's trees.

A bird's haven
Long-tail Shrikes, Pied Fantails, Zebra Doves, Pacific Swallows, Yellow Vented Bulbuls, White-collared Kingfishers, Asian Glossy Starlings, Comoran Kingfishers and Arctic Warblers are among the park's fine-feathered residents. Haribon had also identified a migratory bird, brown shrikes, to be an occasional visitor.

"We are two-thirds complete. We are now cleaning the pathway and would be adding more features here. We already have a canopy, and we have planted secondary trees," proudly said Paterno, referring to lower-growing trees that now make up the forest's green population. The foundation, she said, is five years shy from nurturing the park into a full-fledged forest.

Now threatened with being paved over, the defense line has begun to fortify around the Arroceros Forest Park.

And among its defenders, count in the artists in silent protest.

With the rainy season comes a warning in QC

By Tina G. Santos

IT USED to be that the rains brought joy. These days, it brings a warning.

In Quezon City, officials stepped up the campaign against dengue fever as the city health department reported 582 cases, including 19 deaths, during the first eight months of the year.

But Dr. Ma. Paz Ugalde, city health officer, said the figure was four percent lower than that of the same period last year.

City Health Office records showed that Barangays Holy Spirit and Payatas, two of the city's most depressed communities in District II, registered the most number of dengue fever cases, with 29 cases each.

Other barangays with high cases of dengue were Culiat, Commonwealth, Old Balara, Batasan Hills, Apolonio Samson, Bagbag and Pasong Tamo, all in District II, and Bahay Toro in District I.

Most of the cases involved children, said city health officers.

Body of little angel found on condo's roof

AT LEAST now he could already be buried.

The decomposing body of a late-term male fetus was found yesterday inside a white grocery bag which was apparently thrown onto the roof deck of a building in Makati City.

The remains of the fetus, which police approximated to be 7 to 9 months old, was found on the roof of LPL Manor on Leviste Street, Salcedo Village.

Annalisa Hortalino, a live out maid working in the fifth floor of the building, discovered the fetus at about 10:30 a.m.

Hortalino told the police that

she reported for work yesterday and was met by a stench as she entered the unit of her employer.

She said her employer was usually out of the unit, which she regularly visited to clean.

Hortalino looked for the source of the foul odor and found it on the roof fronting the unit of her employer.

The maid said she saw a pair of small feet protruding from a white grocery bag and she immediately reported the find.

"The fetus could have been placed there or could have been thrown from above," said officer on case PO2 Roderick Sunga.

Hortalino said the last time she was in the building was on Thursday. She did not notice or smell anything when she left around 1:30 p.m.

In an interview, building administrator Angel Tercero revealed to the INQUIRER an incident last week concerning a certain Maryjane Buenaflor, another maid who worked on the 19th floor.

In an incident report, building watchman Alden Balog said that on Sept. 7, Buenaflor's two South Korean female employers sought his help after the maid suffered heavy bleeding.

Balog said Buenaflor told her that her baby was "accidentally

aborted."

The guard's report did not mention him or anybody finding any aborted fetus at the unit of Buenaflor's employers.

Later, in the evening, the maid was fetched by her mother, Victoria, who took her to an undisclosed hospital for treatment.

Reached by cellular phone, Victoria yesterday requested not to talk about her daughter.

A certain Arlene at the agency which dispatched Buenaflor said they did not notice that she was pregnant because she was "tall and healthy" looking. Nancy C. Carvajal

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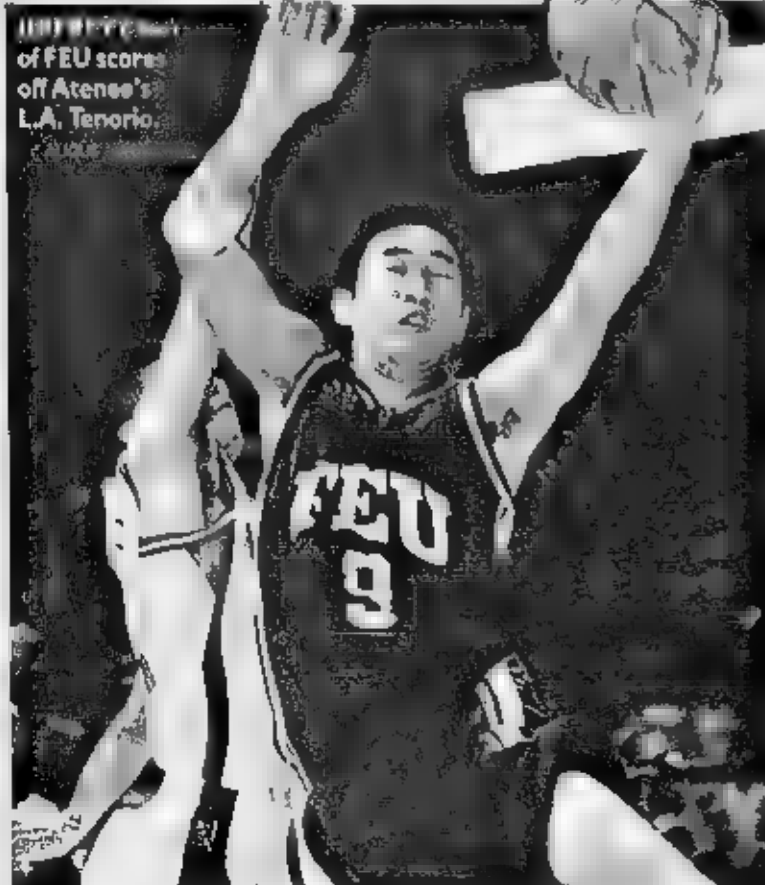
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FEU scores off Ateneo's L.A. Tenorio

Sunday SPORTS

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PBA bares Asiad, ABC mechanics

By Juna Navarro

WITH the World Championship and the Olympics in mind, the Philippine Basketball Association has come up with the mechanics for the formation of the national team that will be tasked to regain the country's prominent position in Asia.

The PBA proposal, which will be presented to the Basketball Association of the Philippines for approval, calls for the creation of a national team from a training pool composed of two teams under the watch of one national coach and a bevy of assistant strategists.

A maximum of 15 players, most likely PBA cagers to be chosen by the national coach, will form the elite training squad while the other

training team will be composed of 15 to 20 players.

In close coordination with the BAP, the PBA will choose the national coach from a short list of choices with emphasis on his ability and capacity to seriously devote his time to the formation of a formidable national squad.

Amateur players will make up the core of the other training team with about five to six PBA players considered as future prospects joining them. The team will have a coach of its own who will also sit as deputy to the head coach in the elite squad.

The PBA has set a maximum age limit of 25 for the members of training pool B with a maximum playing stint of four years. By that time, the players should either be in the elite team or

dropped from the roster.

The elite squad or Team A will see action in the Asian Games, ABC Championship and possibly the World Championship and the Olympics while Team B will play in tournaments within the Southeast Asian region, particularly the SEA Games and the SEABA.

The PBA started sending its stars to the Asian Games in 1992 and now looks forward to also fielding a team in the ABC, which is the qualifying tournament for the world championship and the Olympics.

PBA commissioner Noli Eala and BAP secretary-general Graham Lim are scheduled to meet within the week to initiate what could be the beginning of a real comprehensive basketball program for the country.

Tams No. 1; playoff for 2nd

GAMES TODAY (Araneta Coliseum)
2 p.m. — Nestle Cheering Competition
4 p.m. — La Salle vs FEU (Women)
6 p.m. — Ateneo vs UP (Jrs)

By Jasmine W. Payo

IT was indeed the most opportune time to take the No. 1 spot.

Arwind Santos flashed an all-around performance with 15 points, 18 rebounds and five blocks as the Far Eastern Tamaraws dislodged the Ateneo Eagles from the top position with an unexpected 65-51 rout to become the first team to earn the twice-to-beat advantage in the 67th UAAP varsity basketball tournament yesterday at the Araneta Coliseum.

"We really wanted the top seed before entering the Final Four. We were down at the half but we recovered. At halftime, we were a changed team. *Lahat ng pinaghirapan natin* (all our hard work), it showed in the second half," said FEU coach Roy Banal after finally wresting solo leadership at the end of the eliminations with an 11-3 record.

FEU will clash with UE needing just a win on Thursday to reach the finals.

But before that, archrivals Ateneo and De La Salle will dispute the No. 2 spot and the other twice-to-beat incentive on Tuesday and then collide again on Thursday in the other Final Four pairings.

And the possibility of a third straight Eagles-Archers clash is not discounted.

If the winner of Tuesday's match fails to repeat on Thursday, there will be a rubber match to decide who gets the other championship slot.

The Eagles and the Archers wound up with similar 10-4 records.

In the other senior game, the Adamson Falcons closed their campaign with a sixth-place finish at 5-9 after downing the UST Tigers, 72-61.

The Tigers dropped to seventh at 4-10.

The Scores:

Third game (Jrs)

FEU 65—Santos 15, Miranda 10, Rizada 8, Isip 8, Chan 7, Yahui 6, Cutler 6, Garcia 3, Dela Cruz 2, Villanueva 0, Mangahas 0, Adolfo 0.

ATENEU 51—Bugia 16, Tenorio 7, Membrera 5, Intal 5, Arzo 4, Del Rosario 4, Escalona 4, Kramer 3, Tiu 3, Aguilar 0, Uchico 0, Quimson 0.

Quarters: 16-11, 25-29, 49-35, 65-51

WHAT'S INSIDE



■ Del Rosario clinches Singapore title /A26



■ Russia invades US Open, too /A28



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Weekly Colored Wallpaper	WOW PPS	Jesse's Girl	Rich Springfield	OST2	If You Believe	Bryan Adams	OST10	YOUNG GIRL OST5	YOUNG GIRL OST6
Weekly Monocolor	WOW TONE	What I Like About You	Lil' Kim	OST3	True To Your Heart	W Degree	OST11	YOUNG GIRL OST7	YOUNG GIRL OST8
Weekly Polytone		Love Is A Battlefield	Pat Benatar	OST5	Everybody Wants You	Josh Kelley	OST12	YOUNG GIRL OST9	YOUNG GIRL OST10
Daily Spotlight Update	SPOTLIGHT ON	I Wanna Dance With Somebody	Whitney Houston	OST6	Fire Escape	Paula Abdul	OST13	YOUNG GIRL OST11	YOUNG GIRL OST12
Events Update	WOW GAG	Respect	Aretha Franklin					YOUNG GIRL OST13	YOUNG GIRL OST14
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RP-Youth Burlington team departs today for ABC tournament in India



VANGIE Chua (middle), marketing executive of LA Gear, recently visited a practice session of the University of Santo Tomas Salinggawi Dance troupe to express her firm's all-out support in the title retention bid of the back-to-back UAAP Cheerdance Champion.

FIVE Tuklas Taas products will banner the RP-Youth Burlington team leaving today to compete in the 18th ABC Junior Men's Championship slated Sept. 14-23 in Bangalore, India.

They are Mark Angelo Canlas, Jerry Cruz, Dylan Ababou and Darryl Bautista, all from the University of Santo Tomas; and Alvin John Calatayud of Philippine College of Criminology.

Canlas is the tallest at 6-foot-5, Cruz is 6-3 while Ababou and Bautista are both 6-1. Calatayud is 6-foot.

"Our nationwide search for tall, young players has bore fruit. Now, they're given the rare opportunity to represent the country internationally," said Pete and Rudy Tan, president and general manager, respectively, of longtime RP Youth backer Burlington socks.

The 5-foot-9 Rodel Raneses of San Beda and

5-10 Harvey Aquino of PCCO, were discovered during Tuklas Taas' tour of the countryside, also bankrolled by Burlington, the country's top hosiery firm.

Completing the Johnny Tam-mentored RP-Burlington Youth lineup are 5-8 Michael Sy of De La Salle, 5-9 Diogenes Villame of Ateneo, 6-1 Andrian Celada of PCCO, 6-2 Ram Panganiban of Perpetual Help and 6-2 Led Joseph Claravall of Mapua. Teodoro Perena will act as team manager of the team being sent to the biennial tournament by the Basketball Association of the Philippines.

Other members of the delegation to the event are assistant coach Ricardo King and international referee Ferdinand Pascual. The Filipinos are bracketed in the tough Group C of the 16-nation field. Their first outing will be against the tall Lebanese on Wednesday.

Cards shock Cebu Tribes

THE BAGUIO Cardinals exploded for 22 points in the final quarter to halt Tribu Sugbu's (Cebu Tribes) seven-game winning streak, 83-81, Friday in the NBC (National Basketball Conference) national championship at the University of Baguio gym.

The Skygo-backed Tribes led, 70-61, going into the payoff period and was still ahead, 77-75, with 5:01 left when the Cardinals of UB president Des Bautista unloaded eight straight points while holding the Cebuans scoreless until the last 38.5 seconds to score their fifth win in 13 games.

Coach Andy Calangin's Cagayan de Oro Stars led from start to finish to beat the visiting Batangas 29ers, 83-75, at the Xavier University gym.

Elvis Tolentino sank four triples en route to 19 points that sparked the Stars win.

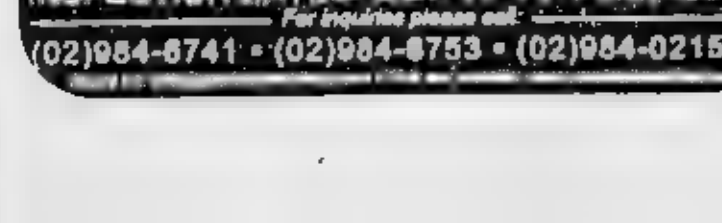
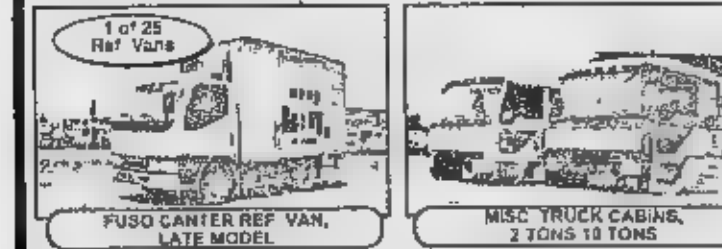
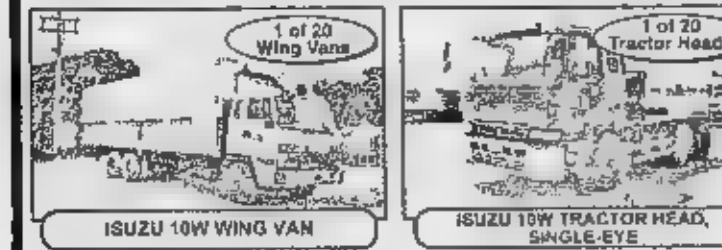
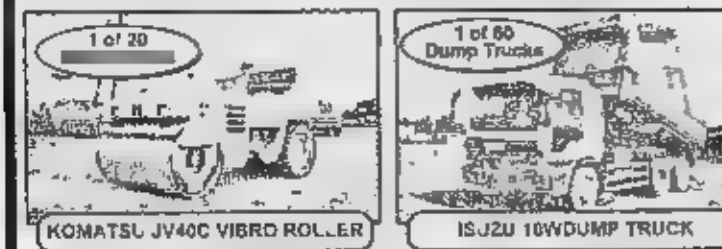
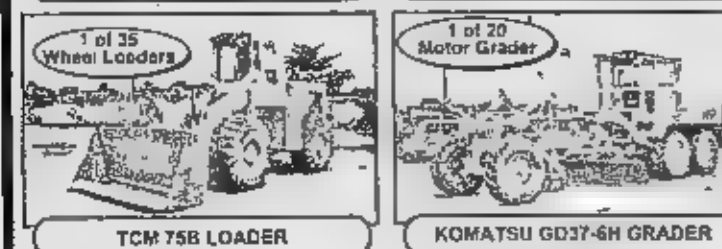
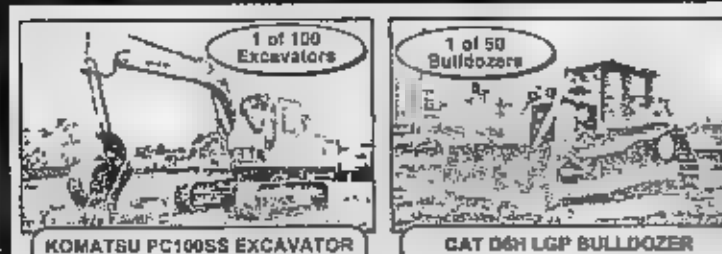
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Del Rosario clinches Singapore Open title

SINGAPORE—Filipino top seed Liza del Rosario dumped Malaysian Zandra Aziela, 244-187, Thursday night to win the women's crown of the 37th Singapore International Open at Victor's Superbowl.

It was the first international title for the world championship gold medalist this year.

The 17-year-old Zandra settled for second after disposing off teammates Shalin Zulkifli (193) and Wendy Chai (188) with 202 in the second stepladder finals match. Zandra, who was seeded sixth,

took the first match, defeating Chinese Taipei's Wang Yu Ling (170) and another Filipino, Liza Clutario (198).

Del Rosario had earlier topped the second block with 3509 ahead of current Asian No. 1 Zulkifli, who was second just 19 pins away with 3490. ABF Tour Malaysia leg

champion Chai was third with 3440.

Wang (3353), Clutario (3337) and Zandra Aziela (3322) made the cut for the stepladder finals from fourth to sixth positions respectively. First block leader Vanessa Fung missed the cut by five pins to finish seventh on 3317 while defending champion Evelyn Chan took eighth place with 3282.

Men's top seed Tim Mack of the United States scored a 197-194 win over Malaysian Daniel Lim to top the men's event, where the Philippines' Chester King failed to make the finals.

The ex-PBA bowler, who turned professional after winning a gold medal in the 2003 World Championship, earlier bagged the AMF Boss London International before rushing over to Singapore for the tournament.

Lim came close to clinching his first-ever Singapore Open title when he dramatically defeated second-seed Jason Belmonte of Australia and third-seed Mubarak Al-Muraikhi of Qatar in the second stepladder match.

Azidi Ameran missed the cut by finishing seventh with 3434 while first block leader King fizzled out in the second block to finish tenth with 3408.



LIZA del Rosario rolls to her first international victory this year.

PHOTO

Seminars spice up Golf Show

SEMINARS on various golf-related topics will be conducted by the Philippine Turfgrass Association as one of the highlights of the Philippine International Golf Show 2004 on Oct. 8-10 at the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong.

Experts in various fields like turf care and maintenance, irrigation, tournament handling and rules will be on hand for the exhibit, which is an annual project of the Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines.

Exhibit chair Lovell Gopez said the seminars are GDAP's way of helping boost the stock of those handling their respective tasks.

Gopez bared that bookings for the Show have been met and they are now in the final stages of preparations with exhibit manager Fairs&More. More than 30 companies in equipment and apparel distribution and related businesses in golf like turf hardware, travel, media, golf resorts and real estate are joining this year's Show.

Ushering in the event is the GDAP Invitational on Sept. 27 at the Manila Golf Club. For details, visit www.philippineinternationalgolfshow.com or call FMI at 759-6680 or 845-1324 or email golfshow@fairsandmore.com.ph

Eagle Ridge tilt lures 200 teams

AN EXPECTED field of 200 teams will dispute prizes worth at least P3 million, including three brand new Nissan X-Trail pickups, in the second Eagle Ridge Invitational, the member-guest golf tournament of the sprawling Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club in Gen. Trias, Cavite slated Sept. 25-26.

The roster of members and their guests will be gun for top awards in three divisions according to average handicaps.

Globe Plaurum, Nissan Commonwealth and CIGI Insurance make up the trio of major sponsors for the Invitational jointly hosted by the Alsons Land Corp. and Sta. Lucia Realty.

For inquiries, call 046-4192841, 046-4192855, 02-7424265, 0927-6247185 or 0921-3679065. Registration is still ongoing at Eagle Ridge with an entry fee of P7,000.

Dagupan cycling kicks off

IMMIGRATION Commissioner Alipio Fernandez Jr. will be the guest of honor and speaker of the Dagupan Cycling Tour Classic-Mayor Benjie Lim Cup today in a 12-lap race around landmarks and attractions to highlight the tourism and investment programs of Dagupan City.

Pangasinan stalwarts known as patrons of local cycling including Speaker Jose de Venecia, Gov. Victor Agbayani, former Mayor Antonio "Bebot" Villar Jr., Rep. Amado T. Espino Jr., University of Pangasinan president Cesar Duque, PNP Provincial Director Mario Sandiego, former Gov. Oscar Orbes and DPWH regional director Fidel Ginez are expected to attend the cycling event.

Race director Jess Garcia, Pangasinan's cycling

hero and two-time Tour of Luzon champion, said the powerhouse cycling teams entered in the Dagupan race include Arnel Quirint, Ryan Tanguilig, Victor Espiritu, Mercurio Ramos, Baler Ravina, Eric Oboso, Reynaldo Navarro, Ennque Domingo and Warren Davadilla, now among the best riders in the country.

Garcia confirmed the attendance of a big delegation of national cycling officials and sponsors including Phil Cycling Association, FedEx RP Team, Pagcor, Darlington and many other prestigious companies. Cycling official Lito Alvarez confirmed that based on the expected magnitude and quality of the Dagupan Tour, plans are afoot to officially list it as a national event in the roster of federation-recognized races annually.

Madrigal new karting darling

AFTER winning her third straight leg on the Shell Super Karting Series recently, 8-year-old Alessandra Madrigal has become the new toast of the local karting world.

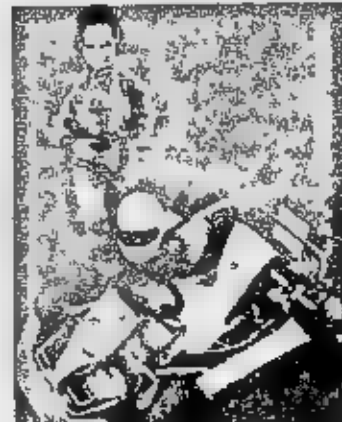
Madrigal, a Filipino-American daughter of Gerard and Terri Madrigal, races in the Cadet class (60cc category) of the Shell Super Series.

She won her first race last March at the Carmona Racing Circuit in Laguna.

Racing mostly against nine to 13-year-olds, Madrigal roared back from third place in the final lap of the 15-lap race to top the 15-man field. She was the only girl in the competition.

After skipping the April leg, Madrigal returned in May and again won the Cadet class, this time bucking a spill in the second lap before crossing the finish line first by a wide margin.

Madrigal won her category last July.



MADRIGAL: Toast of karting

Extreme 4x4 goes on in Bicol

THE BICOL Region becomes the Mecca of off-roading in the country when the 3rd leg of the Delo Sports National Extreme 4x4 Series erupts today in Peñafrancia, Naga City, with practically all of the big names in this extreme motorsport in attendance.

Led by last year's Off-Roader of the Year Robert Abas, tournament leader Tim Gempesaw and legendary off-roader Noel Barcelome of Team Delo Sports, the 3rd leg promises

more heart-stopping action from the cream of the crop in the 4x4 racing.

"It will be an exciting showdown for the title eventually, the national championship. This is the 4x4 tournament that really matters because of its rich history, status and prestige," said Jojo Prieto, president of the hosting Bicol Off-Roaders Club.

Prieto said he has prepared a race course that is a mixture of a man-made and natural terrain.

INSPECTION DATES SEPT. 17-22, 2004
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SPORTSWATCH**Hawks post sweep**

THREE-TIME champion University of Manila achieved another major feat, beating St. Clare College (Cavite) 80-63, to complete a rare 16-game sweep of the elimination rounds in the fourth Naascon men's basketball tournament at the Casa Milan gym in Fairview, Quezon City. The Hawks proved unstoppable even with veteran Jovit Gomez seeing limited playing time, as they drew balanced scoring from five other players to turn back the Saints. Ryan Regalado took up the scoring cudgels for the Hawks, who led in all four quarters against the Joel Dujalan-mentored Saints. Regalado finished with 23 points, while Richard Litonja added 18 and Gener Bernadas contributed 10. Gomez, the Hawks' leading scorer, finished with only five points. The Hawks, who are seeking an unprecedented fourth straight title and the Bert Lina Cup, need only four more wins—two in the semis and two in the championship to wrap up the title without a loss.

Italian GP live at Teak

THE MILD Seven F1 Club will be hosting two simultaneous live viewing parties of the Italian GP at Teak Bar & Bistro, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell and Comfort Zone Bar beside the Speed Zone Circuit at The Fort at 7 p.m. today. Various Mild Seven Renault F1 Team merchandise will be at stake as prizes during numerous games that will be played throughout the race. One of the highlights of the event is a trivia contest wherein fans can test their mastery of the sport by answering questions on the history of and current developments in F1. The Mild Seven F1 Club has been sponsoring these events since last year and is continuing the tradition. The event is open to persons 18 years old and above only.

Fistorama today

"SAMSUNG S Fistorama" today features the championship match between Roy Doliguez and Rene Banares for the Philippine Boxing Federation's Flyweight Division title. The 10-round bout at 112 lb was held at the Angono Municipal Gym in Angono, Rizal. The show is aired weekly in the United States, Europe, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and other parts of the world through ABS-CBN's Piggy Central TV. Samsung's Fistorama is aired at 2 p.m., Sundays, on RPN 9 and is backed by Samsung Electronics Philippines Corp., PCSO, Mapecon, Tanday Rhum and Asian Tigers Lane Moving and Storage. Golf Power, supported by Samsung, Tanday and I Bank, follows at 3 p.m.

LGBA derby series

LEADING gamecock breeders are all set to compete in the first leg of the Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association Inc. (LGBA) 7-Stage Derby Series on Sept. 25, 27 and 29. The first round of eliminations (Sept. 25) is set at Roligon Mega Cockpit. Action shifts at the Araneta Coliseum on Sept. 27 and 29 for the second-round eliminations and championship. Backing up the derby are Asvet Inc., Thunderbird, Robichem Laboratories, Excellence Gamefowl Specialists, Lakpue Drug Inc. and Vitarich Corp. Seeing action on the first day of eliminations at Roligon are 70 participants. For inquiries, call 9267808, 9245072 and 9245051 (loc. 128) or 09205851940 (look for Taz Lunasco).

Inaugural 4-stage set

THE PASAY Cockpit Cockers Association (PCCA) presents its inaugural 4-stage derby this Friday, Sept. 17, at the air-conditioned Pasay City cockpit. Sponsors are Sagupaan Hammer, Sagupaan Mile Free and Sagupaan B 50 Fortan. Participants must submit entries on Thursday, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., and may call 8431890, 8431748 and 8166750. Meanwhile, Pasay Cockpit's 2-cock Ullan, an event designed for small-time cockers and backyard breeders, will start at 8 a.m. today. This will be held regularly every Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Registration fee is lowered to P1,000 to allow more cockers to participate, said pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric de la Rosa and Butch Olanio.

Lyceum keeps slate clean

DEFENDING champion Lyceum of the Philippines inched closer to the number one spot yesterday when it crushed arch rival College of St. Benilde, 25-20, 25-14, 25-14, in the WNCAA 35th season at the RTU gym. The Lady Pirates were unforgiving in dealing the Lady Blazers their third loss in eight matches, not yielding a set in the lopsided game to post a 6-0 slate. The WNCAA 35th season is co-presented by Kotex and sponsored by adidas, The Philippine Star, RPN 9, Monster Radio RX 93.1, Pantene and Café Lupe, in cooperation with Cadbury, Goldlocks, Powerade, Moflen, Milkasa and Rustan's Essences. In the opening game, Rizal Technological University pounded Miriam College, 25-12, 25-23, 25-8, to improve to 6-1 and remain in third place. Miriam dropped to 2-4.

TENNIS: US Open

2004, 8 a.m. (r-11 p.m.), 3 p.m. (r) and 1 a.m.; Star Sports—Catch

live airing of the women's singles, the replay of the men's singles semifinals and then stay up late for the women's doubles finals and men's singles finals from Flushing Meadows, New York.

BASEBALL: MLB—Cardinals vs. Dodgers, 10 a.m. (r-3 p.m. and 8 p.m.); ESPN—St. Louis takes on LA in this N. encounter.

GOLF: LPGA John Q. Hammond Hotel Classic, tomorrow at 4:30 a.m.; ESPN—The final round goes underway.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.

Paragua seeded to Olympiad; GTK named new chess prexy

INTERNATIONAL Master Mark Paragua, in hot pursuit of his third and last Grandmaster result, has been seeded to the Philippine team competing in this year's Chess Olympiad in Majorca, Spain.

The outright choice of Paragua came through a resolution approved by the new board of the National Chess Federation of the Philippines (NCFP), headed by Go T'eng Kok, Friday, rewarding the country's top-rated player an automatic berth to the Olympiad starting this year.

Paragua, now the highest rated Filipino player with a 2554 ELO, is playing in a second Grandmaster tournament in Alushta, Ukraine and will miss the National championship slated Sept. 18-29 in Tagaytay City which will determine the RP men's and women's squads to the Olympiad.

The 17 finalists, led by Grandmasters Eugene Torre, Joey Antonio, Bong Villalino and Nelson Mariano II, will vie for the remaining five slots in the men's team. Three berths are up for grabs in the women's division.

Erstwhile NCFP president and now chair of the board Mat Defensor sponsored the resolution seeding the top player to the RP team, which drew support from Go, who was unanimously chosen to head the chess body in



GO FOLPHOTO



PARAGUA FOLPHOTO

recognition of his superb work as president of the Philippine Amateur Track and Field Association.

The other officers chosen were lawyer Sammy Estimo, who retained his post as secretary-general, vice-presidents Art Carillo, Ed Madrid and lawyer Romeo Seratubias, treasurer Jess Torre and auditor Juanito Calditaran.

Upon learning of Defensor's decision, Florencio Campomanes, Fide (International Chess Federation) Honorary Chair said: "I am sad that he (Defensor) has resigned (as NCFP president). He has done so much for the game. He is not the culprit in the NCFP mess. I supposed he just got fed up."

Marlon Bernardino

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Marlon Bernardino

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Russia invades US Open, too

NEW YORK—Elena Dementieva outlasted Jennifer Capriati, 6-0, 2-6, 7-6 (5), on Friday and set up an all-Russian women's final at the US Open.

In Saturday's championship match, Dementieva will meet Svetlana Kuznetsova, who became the first Russian woman to reach the final when she beat a limping Lindsay Davenport, 1-6, 6-2, 6-4, and ruined the American's chance of regaining the Open title and world No. 1 ranking.

"Russians are here," Kuznetsova said.

It will be the second all-Russian final at a major this year. Dementieva lost to Anastasia Myskina at the French Open, then

Russian Maria Sharapova won Wimbledon.

"I guess they're just hungry to play. They've got some pretty good ones," Capriati said. "You're bound to have one of them."

The men's semis also will be Saturday, with No. 28 Joachim Johansson of Sweden against 2001 champion Lleyton Hewitt, and top-seeded Roger Federer taking on Tim Henman.

This marks the first time since 1988 that no Americans will be in the finals at this tournament.

After Davenport's demise on a strained hip, fans at Arthur Ashe Stadium clearly cheered for the New York-born Capriati to make the final for the first time.

"It's not easy to play Jennifer in New York," Dementieva said.

Capriati, winner of three Grand Slam events, fell to 0-4 in semifinals at the Open and sobbed in the locker room, comforted by her mother.

Johansson vs Hewitt: A family encounter

NEW YORK—Hard-serving Swede Joachim Johansson has transformed his surprising run to his first Grand Slam semifinal into a US Open family affair.

Johansson has been dating Jaslyn Hewitt for four years and will face his girlfriend's older brother, former world No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt, in the semifinals of the \$17.8-million event here on Saturday.

Hewitt is on an incredible run of his own and has not dropped a set in the Open. He crushed Germany's Tommy Haas in the semifinals, extending his winning streak to 15 matches.

So when asked who Jaslyn would be cheering for in the semis, Johansson quipped, "She can pick the boyfriend, but she can't pick the brother so she's going to cheer for me for sure."

In the other semifinal, world No. 1 Roger Federer faces Britain's Tim Henman, who has won six of their eight previous meetings.

Johansson is looking forward to the challenge of playing Hewitt as he has spent a lot of time at the Hewitt home in Adelaide, Australia, practicing tennis and playing golf with Hewitt.

"It is going to be a tough match," Johansson said. "We are good friends. Hopefully we will be good friends after Saturday."

"It is a little strange. It feels good for me because it is my first semifinal and I know the guy I am playing."

Hewitt's parents, Glynn and Cheryl, were court-side along with Jaslyn when 28th seed Johansson eliminated defending champion Andy Roddick on Thursday.

Drexler



DREXLER

SPRING
—Clyde
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B.J. Sha
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Also

LETRAN and San Beda 1 ver day for reasons almost unfair

Letran was supposed to lose cause, first of all, its star, Ronny, serving a one-game suspension. miracle, a "divine intervention" coach Louie Alas called it. beco seemed lost for the Knights. dave sank a triple with 3.2 sec ing Letran a 65-64 victory ov vored Philippine Christian U win forged a rubber match o for an NCAA finals riot.

Not to be outdone San Beda, so easy in defeating top seed P 57-48, to likewise arrange a w between San Beda and Perpe Wednesday.

My hat's off to Lions coach whose defensive net thrown a al forced the Altas to score e two points in the third quarter.

With momentum now on, wouldn't be surprised to si champion Letran and dark he clashing for the NCAA title af out matches on Wednesday.

"Now I believe you," said based Franklin Leonor on the crysta. bad has done it again are in the finals of the US Open secret?"

Franklin, a dear bitas of Em plush Corinthian Gardens, is a his hometown Calauag, Quez bottles quite regularly there— paohan Beach—in the compa buddy, Joven Vito Flondo.

Franklin, of course, was reti lana Kuznetsova and Elen who beat Americans Lindsay I Jennifer Capriati, respective, a.J-Russian fina. for the US championship. That means .b

French claims top rank

NEW YORK—France's Amelie Mauresmo became the new world women's No. 1 player on Friday without having to lift a racket.

Lindsay Davenport's defeat to Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova in the semifinals of the US Open meant the American squandered her chance to take over top spot from Belgium's Justine Henin-Hardenne.

Instead Mauresmo, 25, who was knocked out of the US Open in the quarterfinals by Russia's Elena Dementieva, will officially take

over the top spot when the next rankings list is released on Monday.

"This is just reward for Amelie's brilliant results on the circuit this season," said Christian Bines, the president of the French Tennis Federation (FTF), in a statement released in Paris.

Mauresmo reaches the top spot despite never having won a Grand Slam crown.

The closest she has come was in 1999 when she was runner-up at the Australian Open. AFP



MAURESMO: No sweat getting to the top.

Hometown bet Weir, new No. 1 Singh set showdown

OAKVILLE, Ontario—The Canadian Open got the perfect gift for its 100th anniversary—Mike Weir in the lead with a flawless round of 5-under 66, and a showdown with the No. 1 player in golf looming on the weekend.

Weir made the Glen Abbey course sound like Sunday at Augusta National, sending the

gallery into a frenzy with a 3-iron into 3 feet for eagle to take the lead and sticking a 5-iron close for birdie on his final hole to finish one shot ahead of Vijay Singh among those who finished 36 holes Friday.

"Today could not have gone much better," Weir said.

He was at 9-under 133 and in the lead at his national open for the first time.

In his first event since replacing Tiger Woods at No. 1 in the world, Singh certainly looked the part. After finishing his first nine holes in 40, he broke the Canadian Open record with a 28 on the front nine—7 under during a seven-hole

stretch—then added a 66 in the second round.

"I just started hitting it close, and all of a sudden I noticed it was 28," Singh said. "I was just trying to get it back as close to par as possible."

Craig Barlow, Weir's best friend from their mini-tour days, had a 69 and was at 6-under 142.



er inducted to Hall of Fame

FIELD, Massachusetts
Drexler, a nine-time Na-
tional Basketball Association All-
Star and long-time NBA coach
man were among six in-
ducted here Friday into the Na-
tional Basketball Hall of Fame.

vian star guard Drazen Dalipagic,
Phoenix Suns owner Jerry Colan-
gelo, women's star Lynette
Woodard and the late Maurice
Stokes.

Drexler, dubbed "Clyde the
Glue" for his smooth moves to
the hoop, averaged 20.4 points a

game in a 15-year career that saw
him win an NBA title in 1995 with
Houston and play on the 1992 US
Olympic gold medal Dream Team.

Drexler retired in 1998 as one
of just three players in NBA histo-
ry with 20,000 points, 6,000 re-
bounds and 6,000 assists. **AFP**

NCAA, crystal ball surprise

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SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza



major in women's tennis have become Rus-
sian property—Anastasia Myskina in the
French Open, Maria Sharapova in Wimble-
don and either Kuznetsova or Dementieva
in the US Open. Henin-Hardenne, a Belgian,
won the Australian Open.

So you want to know my secret, Emil, in
correctly predicting the all-Russian finals in
the US Open?

OK, here. My crystal ball is entirely differ-
ent from GMA's.

Truthful to the core.

Today being Grandparents Day, will Lolo
and Lola be happy really?

Yes, if only their children know how to do
it. The tested trick of all time is to have the
grandchildren pay a surprise visit to Lolo
and Lola. A small gift, like flowers or fruits,
will do. If that's not possible, a tele-
phone/cell phone call will do. The sad part
is, that can only happen if the children will
take the initiative. Always, the children are
the main conduits between grandparents
and grandchildren. Take away the children,
and the communication lines between
grandparents and grandchildren are as dead
as grass in summer. Only grandchildren
aged from, maybe, 13 and up have the heart
to remember calling their grandparents, or
even paying a surprise visit to them.

But still, even in this day of cyber space
and Internet, it is not uncommon to find un-
happy Lolos and Lolas—and for a variety of
reasons, from the weird to the ironic.

Surprisingly, many "children" today with

kids of their own do not seem to realize the
fact that a kid having grandparents as alive
as Bin Laden is the luckiest kid in the world.
For, the truth of the matter is, 7 out of 10
kids today do not have grandparents any-
more.

I have a friend—he considers me his best
friend to this day even if he has been living
in San Francisco for nearly 20 years now—
from Grade 1 to fourth year high school,
who grew up with his Lolo and Lola (maternal
side) while his parents and siblings lived
in Manila. Almost every day of the year, we
were inseparable in the country. I kept
telling him how lucky he was for having
grandparents. I never saw my paternal
grandparents (even in pictures). The only
one I saw, touched, was my mother's moth-
er.

When we went to Manila for college, my
buddy began to live with his parents. But,
alas, he would soon leave his parents' abode
not long after and move to his aunt's place.
He couldn't adjust with his siblings. Or
maybe, vice versa?

To this day, my friend would talk fondly of
his grandparents, the days we had as kids in
the country, each time he came home to vis-
it. He always referred to his Lolo and Lola as
"my beloved grandparents, the best in the
whole universe."

Happy Grandparents Day!

FASTBREAK. I am absent but in spirit, I will
be with the cyclists in today's Dagupan Cy-
cling Tour in Pangasinan. With Pareng Jess
Garcia as race director, how can it go
wrong? Gracing the occasion will be Immi-
gration Commissioner Alipio Fernandez Jr.
as guest of honor and speaker, Governor Ag-
bayani, Mayor Antonio "Bebot" Villar,
Speaker Joe de Venecia and Rep. Amado T.
Espino Jr., among others. . . Don't miss
Dream Satellite TV's airing of the much-
awaited Ryder Cup Sept. 17-20.

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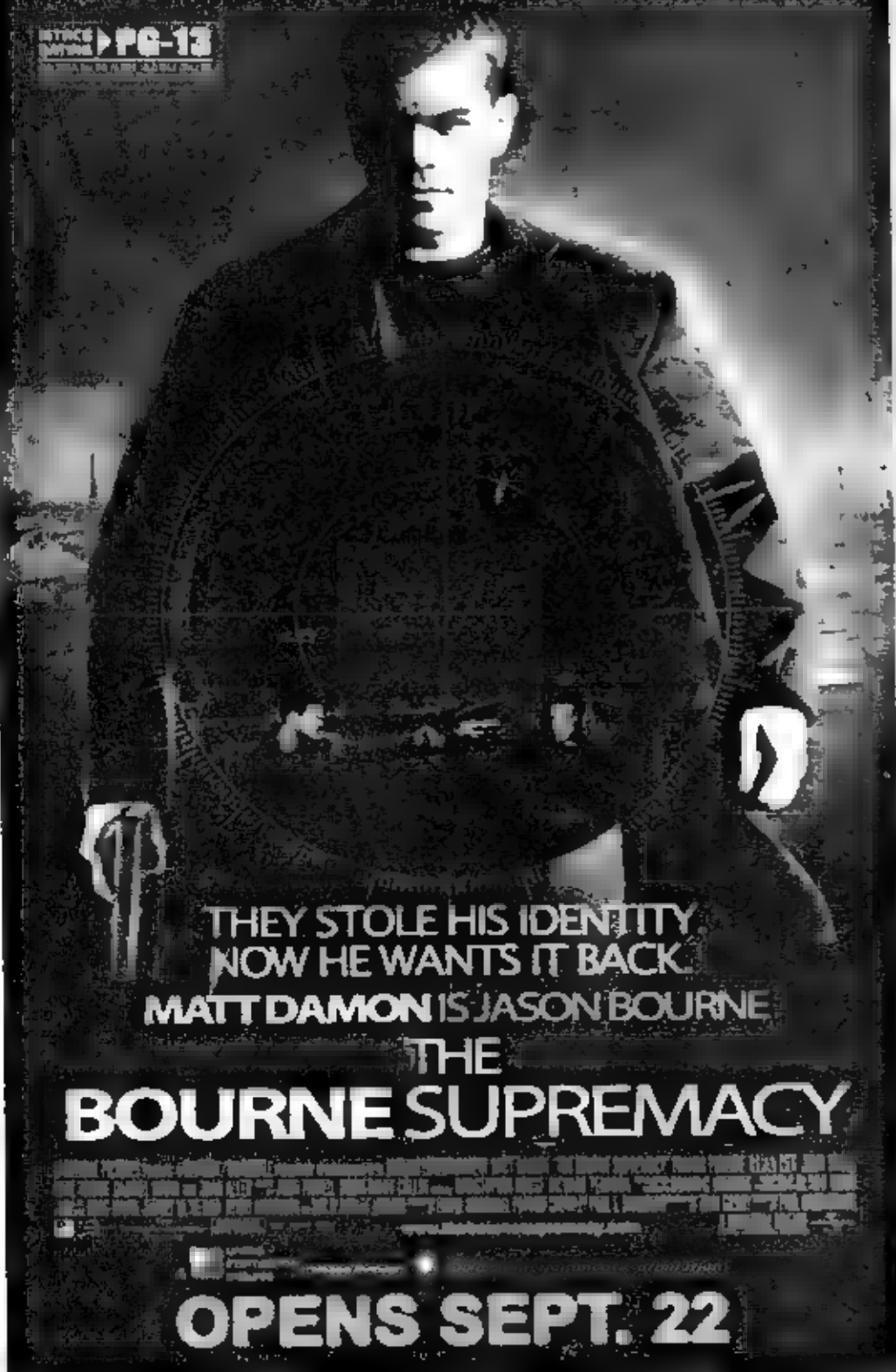
*See BMW for details. For CTR-NCH Permit No. 4386 Series of 2004

318i M Sport, 325i Executive and 325i M Sport
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Per DTI-NCH Permit No. 1827 Series of 2004

THEY SHOULD HAVE LEFT HIM ALONE

PG-13



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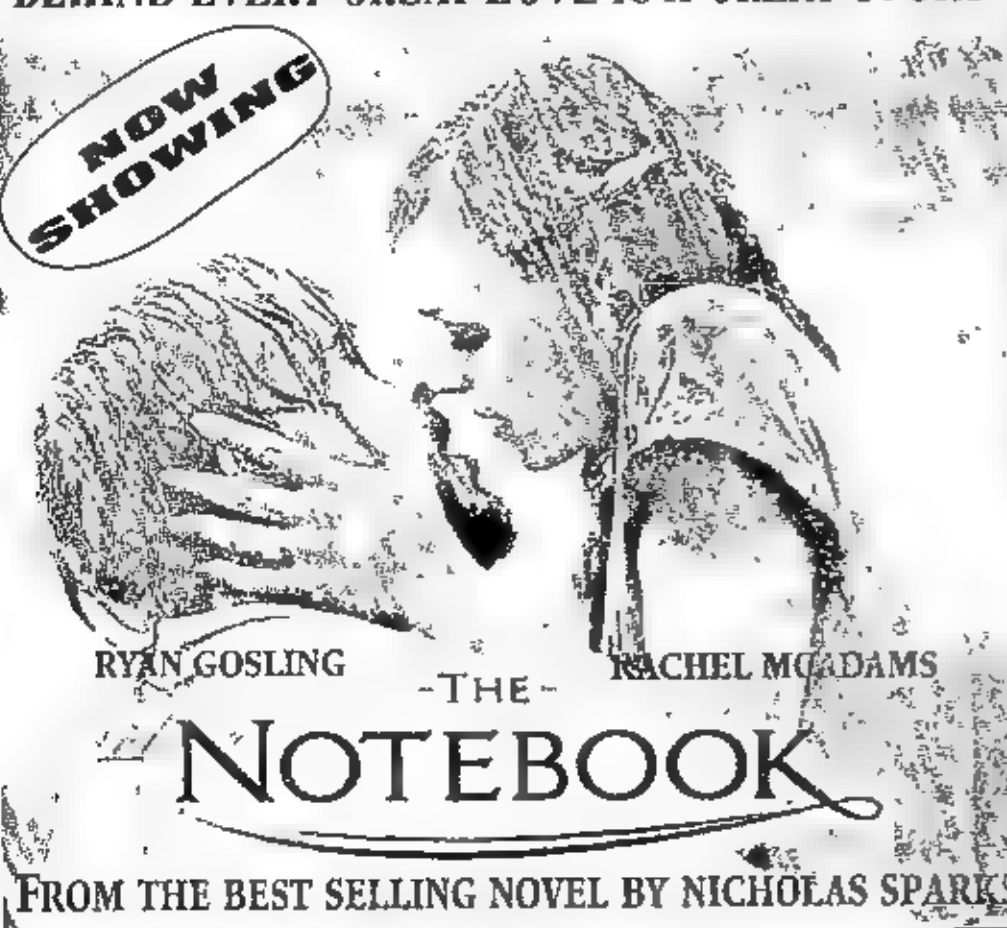
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GODSEND

A30

Sunday SPORTS

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

Esguerra bets race favorites at San Lazaro

By Edwin Villanueva, Contributor

GALLOPERS carrying the colors of the powerhouse Hermie Esguerra Stable head their respective fields in three featured races today at the San Lazaro Leisure Park.

Real Slew and Royal Catch are running as coup-ed bets when they compete in the fifth leg of the Imported Stakes series, while four other horses of the noted sportsman are likewise tipped to click in the other attractions this afternoon at the Garmona, Cavite, racetrack.

Another 1-2 finish will be the main goal of Lamborghini and One Vision as they battle four other newcomers in the MJCI Pre-Juvenile, while Real Tough is given the slight edge in the well-balanced field of seven entries in the National Defense College Cup.

The Real Slew-Royal Catch combination under ace jockey Pat Dilema and promising apprentice Ronald Baldonado, respectively, may be hard to crack but the presence of recent Noy Cup winner Being There and veteran campaigner Time Gentleman should pose a big threat in Esguerra's bid to add another charger in the Imports Championships.

"Tingin ko kailang mahigpit sina Being There at Time Gentleman (I think Being There and Time Gentleman are our toughest rivals)," said Dilema, the three-time winner of the Noy Cup.

Two other Esguerra runners have prevailed in the previous legs of the series with Neat Laurel topping the second and Crystal Show ruling the fourth. The other victors so far were Putch Puyat's Key Apo (first leg) and Sandy Javier's Sexiest (third leg).

Completing the cast in the 1,600-meter fifth leg giving P270,000 to the winner is the unpredictable Surprise Target.

In the Pre-Juvenile, Lamborghini and One Vision, also to be handled by Dilema and Baldonado, are aiming for another first-second arrival following that feat they accomplished in the recent first leg of the Juvenile Championships.

Their chief rival, though is coming in the form of another Esguerra horse—War Alert—who is running under the silks of the Herma Farms Inc. Competing the lineup in the 1,400-m affair are Constant Queen, Starsky and Hutch, and Jerway.

Meanwhile, Real Tough will depend on the tested skills of veteran Elpidio Aguila in the NDCP Cup, also to be held over 1,600 meters.

RACING TIPS AT SLLP
BY MR. 999

- Race 1—1. West in Wild 2. Rindy 3. Star of the Night 4. Yoshwara
- Race 2—1. Hezabellagio 2. Green Buck 3. That's My Tiger 4. Nifty Grity 5. Tervajac
- Race 3—1. Lamborghini/One Vision 2. War Alert 3. Shadowfax 2. Favorite Girl 3. Paramount
- Race 4—1. Real Tough 2. House of Riches 3. Golden Harry 4. Cool Operator
- Race 5—1. Speedster 2. Western Legend 3. Angle Red 4. Aba Aba 5. Refreshing/Modern Classic 6. Sea King
- Race 7—1. Real Slew/Royal Catch 2. Being There 3. Hazitcoming 2. Stout Hearted 3. Walup Forever/Walup Forever 4. Juara 5. Selectee
- Race 8—1. Pasirrit 2. Trioe Anne 3. Tender Value 4. Lucky Fil
- Race 10—1. D Joy of the Wild 2. Royal Magic 3. Speed Admiral 4. Man Power
- Race 11—1. Race for Gold 2. Gals 3. Real Charm 4. Husay Na
- Race 12—1. Sheza Slew 2. Strong Colony 3. Well Noted 4. Courage Heart
- Race 13—1. Solid North 2. Gifted Angel 3. Golden Snakehotdog 4. Big Bucks 5. Winning Prize 6. Time to Party

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1 THE NOTEBOOK
FS 12:30PM, 2:15PM, 4:00PM, 5:50PM
MTRCB Rating: PG-13

2 THE TERMINAL
FS 11:30AM, 1:00PM, 4:30PM, 7:00PM
LNF 3:00PM
MTRCB Rating: GPG

3 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
FS 11:30AM, 2:00PM, 4:00PM, 7:15PM
LNF 9:30PM
MTRCB Rating: GPG

4 DODGEBALL
FS 12:00PM, 2:30PM, 4:00PM, 5:30PM
LNF 9:00PM
MTRCB Rating: PG-13

PREMIERE THEATRE **ANACONDAS**
FS 12:30PM, 2:00PM, 5:20PM, 7:30PM, 9:30PM
LNF 9:30PM
MTRCB Rating: PG-13

THEATRE MALL

1 THE TERMINAL
10:50 1:40 4:30 7:20 10:10
GP

2 DODGEBALL
11:00 1:15 3:30 5:45 8:00 10:15
PG13

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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX

3 ANACONDAS
10:10 am 12:30 pm 2:30 pm 4:40 pm 6:50 pm 9:00 pm

4 THE TERMINAL
12:25 pm 3:15 pm 6:05 pm 8:55 pm

5 DODGEBALL
12:00 am 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm

6 TOOL BOX MURDERS
12:00 am 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm

7 GODSEND
12:00 am 2:15 pm 4:30 pm 6:45 pm 9:00 pm

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Kim leads Annika by one

BROKEN ARROW, Okla.—Christina Kim shot a 6-under 68 and held a one-stroke lead over Annika Sorenstam and LPGA Tour rookie Shi Hyun Ahn after the first round of the John Q. Hammons Hotel Classic on Friday.

Fil-Am Dorothy DeLoon was 11 shots back after a 76.

Kim, coming off a second-place finish at the State Farm Classic, had seven birdies and bogeyed only one hole—the par-4 11th after coming up short of the green on approach and putting three feet past the hole.

Sorenstam, playing for the first time in five weeks, and Ahn were one stroke in front of Beilley Rankin, another tour newcomer.

Defending champion Karrie Webb shot a 3-over 73.

Sorenstam, who has started only 13 of 24 LPGA events this year but has four tournament titles, pumped her fist toward the gallery and smiled after making a 35-foot birdie putt on the 13th.

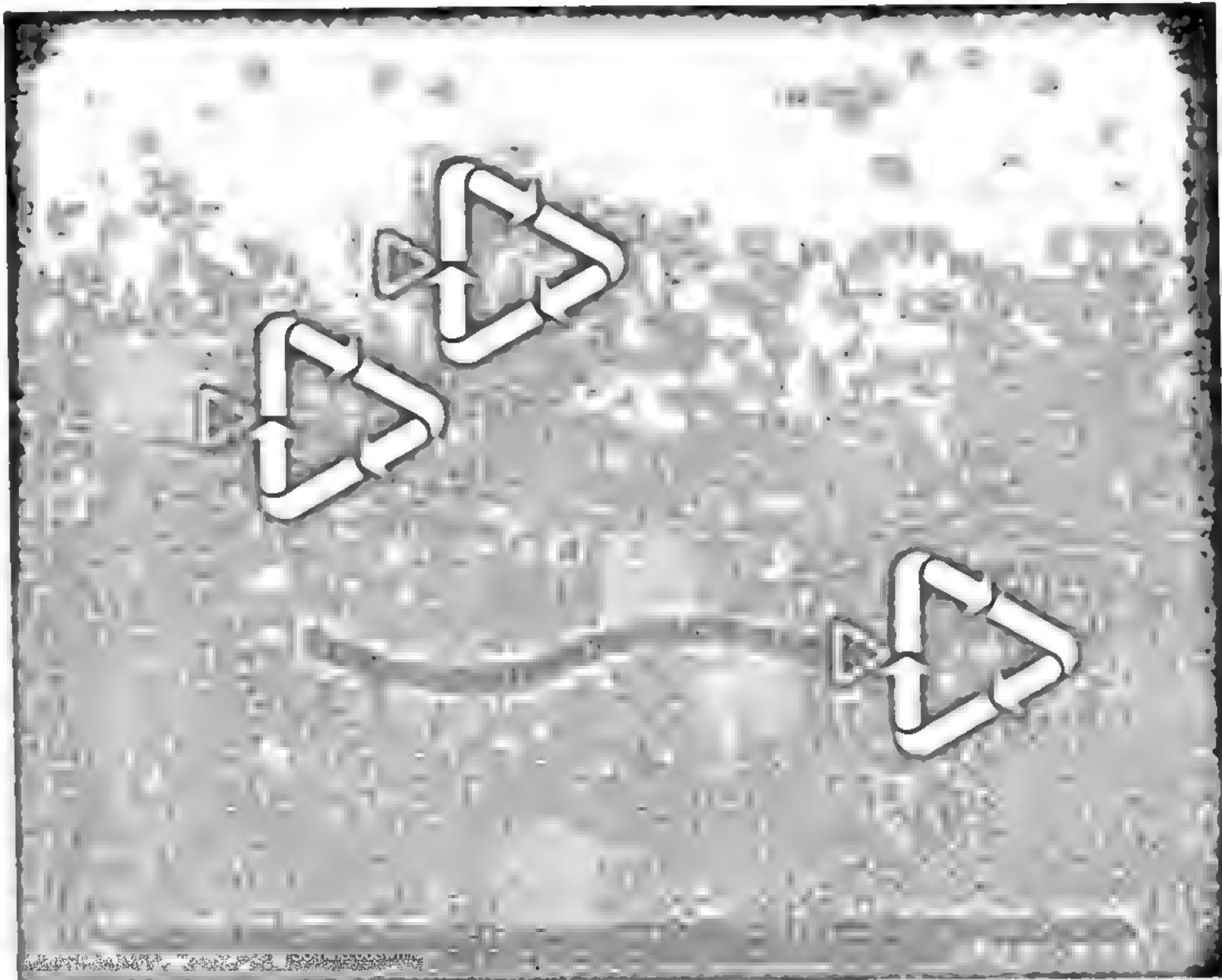
Sorenstam, who is

in

with

the

score. I'm surprised



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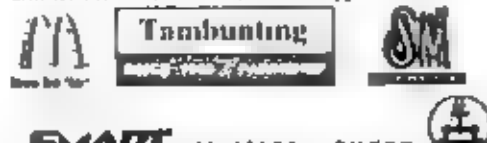
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Editor Louie C. Camino

'Imelda' the musical to open in LA in '05

By Ruben V. Nepales
LA Correspondent

LOS ANGELES—After "Imelda" the acclaimed documentary comes "Imelda" the musical.

East West Players, the leading Asian American theater company in the US, will stage the world premiere of a musical on Imelda Marcos in May next year.

Tiffi Dang, East West Players' artistic director who will also direct the production, said in an exclusive interview with INQUIRER Entertainment that "Imelda" will concentrate on the "time when she (Imelda) ran for Miss Manila to when she and Marcos were flown to Hawaii."

"Imelda" will cap the 2004-2005 season of the Los Angeles-based East West Players, which has trained numerous stage artists who have gone on to win Tony Awards, Academy Awards, Obie Awards, Emmy Awards and Theater LA Ovation Awards.

The troupe is acknowledged as the oldest and one of the most influential Asian American theater companies in the States.

12 actors

Dang said the musical "will have the tone of 'Evita' with more light and funny parts. It will be

The principal characters, aside from the colorful former first lady, are Ferdinand Marcos, Ninoy Aquino and Corazon Aquino

reality-based but theater can bring a magical and surreal touch that film or TV cannot present. I look forward to exploring that magical part of the musical."

"Imelda," a collaboration of Sachi Oyama (book), Nathan Wang (music) and Aaron Coleman (lyrics), will have a cast of 12 actors. Eight of these cast members will play multiple roles.

"We will have open auditions for all parts sometime in January," Dang announced. Asked about the plum title role, which could be the role of a lifetime for whoever is cast, the multi-talented Dang said, "We have not cast the role of Imelda yet but we hope to cast someone who

has celebrity (status) in the United States along with the power, charm and beauty of Imelda."

Dang added that the principal characters, aside from the colorful former first lady, are Ferdinand Marcos, Ninoy Aquino and Corazon Aquino. There will be three muses who will play multiple roles but mainly serve as the conscience of Imelda, questioning and challenging her for every decision she makes. The muses will look like the three contestants from the Miss Manila pageant.

Girlhood to disgrace

Asked how different the musical will be from "Imelda," Ramona Diaz's acclaimed documentary which is currently showing in the Los Angeles area, Dang replied, "We have all seen the documentary, which is absolutely wonderful filmmaking. I hope that we will inspire audiences who see the documentary to see the musical for a magical musical journey, and that those who see the musical will see the documentary for a realistic or educational journey."

Sachi Oyama, who wrote the book for the musical, added, "It will be similar (to the docu) in that we are tracing Imelda's life from the time she was a young girl to the moments she achieved fame and fell into disgrace. It will be

IMELDA/A34



MARCOS. The play will cover her life from Miss Manila to Hawaii.

Lahat sila, mapapasagot mo.

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Desiree del Valle CODE: PA191

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- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 GODSEND
- 5 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 6 CINE EUROPA
- 7 HAUNTED SPIRIT 2
- 8 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 9 THE NOTEBOOK
- 10 ANACONDAS
- 11 CONNIE AND CARLA
- 12 LAWS OF ATTRACTION

CITY NORTH EDSA

- 1 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 2 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 3 THE NOTEBOOK
- 4 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 5 THE TERMINAL
- 6 DODGEBALL
- 7 ANACONDAS
- 8 GODSEND

CITY MARILAO

- 1 THE ALAMO
- 2 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
- 3 ANACONDAS
- 4 THUNDERBIRDS

CITY LAS PIÑAS

- 1 DODGEBALL
- 2 PRINCESS DIARIES
- 3 ANACONDAS
- 4 THE TERMINAL
- 5 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
- 6 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 7 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 8 GODSEND
- 9 THE NOTEBOOK
- 10 HAUNTED SPIRIT 2

Central

CITY FAIRVIEW

- 1 HAUNTED SPIRIT 2
- 2 NOW THAT I HAVE YOU
- 3 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 4 ANACONDAS
- 5 GODSEND
- 6 THE NOTEBOOK
- 7 DODGEBALL
- 8 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 9 THE TERMINAL
- 10 COLLATERAL
- 11 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
- 12 TOOLBOX MURDERS

CITY STA. MESA

- 1 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 2 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 GODSEND
- 5 ANACONDAS
- 6 NOW THAT I HAVE YOU
- 7 DODGEBALL
- 8 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 9 THE NOTEBOOK
- 10 COLLATERAL

CITY MANILA

- 1 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 2 THE NOTEBOOK
- 3 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 4 THE TERMINAL
- 5 DODGEBALL
- 6 ANACONDAS
- 7 GODSEND
- 8 HAUNTED SPIRIT 2
- 9 ANACONDAS
- 10 I, ROBOT
- 11 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 12 LAWS OF ATTRACTION

CINEMA TUBUAN

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 GODSEND
- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 TOOLBOX MURDERS

North

CITY PAMPANCA

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 CONNIE AND CARLA
- 3 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
- 4 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 5 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
- 6 THUNDERBIRDS

South

CITY BICUTAN

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 THE TERMINAL
- 3 DODGEBALL
- 4 GODSEND
- 5 SUPER CENTER
- 6 SUCAT
- 7 DODGEBALL
- 8 THE TERMINAL
- 9 ANACONDAS
- 10 GODSEND

CITY DASMA

- 1 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 2 THE TERMINAL
- 3 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 4 ANACONDAS

CITY BAGUIO

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 DEAD PEOPLE
- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 THUNDERBIRDS

CITY BACOR

- 1 DODGEBALL
- 2 THE TERMINAL
- 3 ANACONDAS
- 4 TOOLBOX MURDERS
- 5 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 6 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 7 THE NOTEBOOK
- 8 NOW THAT I HAVE YOU

CITY LUCENA

- 1 THUNDERBIRDS
- 2 STEPPORD WIVES
- 3 DEAD PEOPLE
- 4 CINDERELLA STORY

Visayas & Mindanao

CITY CEBU

- 1 THE VILLAGE
- 2 CONNIE AND CARLA
- 3 STEPPORD WIVES
- 4 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 5 CINDERELLA STORY
- 6 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
- 7 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
- 8 ANACONDAS

CITY ILOILO

- 1 SUPER SIZE ME
- 2 RESERVED
- 3 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 4 CINDERELLA STORY
- 5 STEPPORD WIVES
- 6 RING: THE SPIRAL
- 7 RESERVED
- 8 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

CITY DAVAO

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
- 3 THE ALAMO
- 4 STEPPORD WIVES
- 5 LAWS OF ATTRACTION
- 6 PRINCESS DIARIES 2

CITY CACAYAN DE ORO

- 1 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 2 WEREWOLF: GINGERSNAPS 2
- 3 GARFIELD
- 4 WHOLE 10 YARDS

THE PODIUM

- 1 THE TERMINAL
11:50 FS/12:20 MF/3:00/5:40/ 8:20/10:30 LFS/ 11:00 LMF/1:10 END
 - 2 DODGEBALL
11:25 FS/11:55 MF/2:05/4:15/6:25/ 8:35/10:15 LFS/ 10:45 LMF/12:20 END
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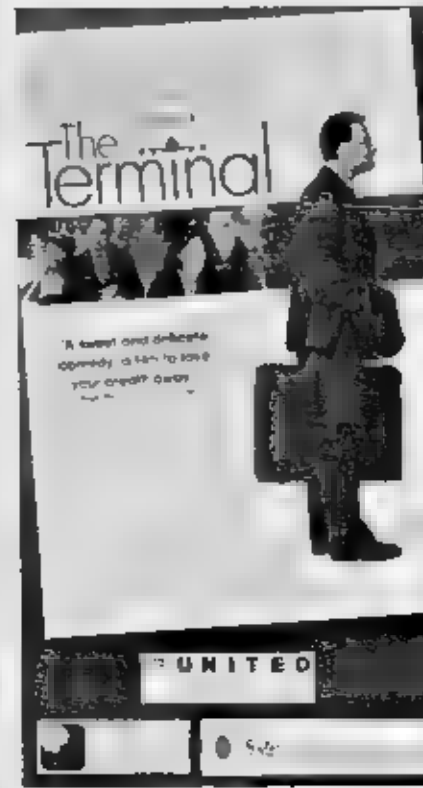
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Fine comeback for Chito Roño



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VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

WE LOOKED forward to seeing "Feng Shui" earlier this week because the Star Cinema production marks the comeback of the well-regarded film director Chito Roño.

We've been wondering why Roño hasn't been making movies for some seasons now. The latest film has put all that to rest, because it's a winner.

"Feng Shui" dramatizes what happens when a small mirror used by the Chinese to deflect bad luck falls into the hands of the young wife and mother played by Kris Aquino.

Answer to her family's dreams because good fortune appears to smile brightly on them. In time, however, she realizes that, for every manifestation of good luck, someone who has looked into the mirror will die.

That's a chilling prospect, especially when friends and relatives are drawn into the cursed mirror's bloody circle of death.

What makes this mirror so deadly? It appears that its original owner put a virulent hex on it when her life suffered stunning reversals in China, way back when.

Misery and tragedy love company, so the mirror has been handed down through the years, to do its worst on its succeeding owners, and the people they love most.

Roño and co-writer Roy Iglesias further expand on this theme to make an ironic comment on the nature of luck itself.

In their unconventional dramatization, good and bad luck aren't opposites, they're mystifyingly interlinked, conjoined like the good and evil aspects of man himself.

Roño bolsters his material with scary visualization, dexterous editing, good choice of atmospheric locations, and effective use of sound to add to the movie's horrific effect.

On the debit side, Kris Aquino's performance as the film's protagonist leaves much to be desired. We see her work hard to come up with an involved and involving portrayal, but her facial mannerisms and her often hoarse voice is distracting.

Jay Manalo is similarly unempathetic as her husband. Happily, the young actors who play their children are more natural and affecting. And Lotlot de Leon as Kris Aquino's friend also does well.

Another major problem with the production is its lack of selectivity and focus. So many people die in the course of the movie that, after a while, the viewer feels numb. A more selective choice of victims would have

MMTA MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

Star Cinema

- 1 THE NOTEBOOK
PG-13/FS 12:00PM, 3:15PM, 6:00PM, LMF: 8:55PM
- 2 THE TERMINAL
PG/FS: 11:00AM, 1:40PM, 4:20PM, 7:00PM LMF: 9:40PM
- 3 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
PG/FS: 11:00AM, 2:05PM, 4:40PM, 7:15PM LMF: 9:50PM
- 4 DODGEBALL
PG-13/FS: 12:10PM, 2:25PM, 4:40PM, 6:55PM LMF: 9:10PM

PREMIERE

ANACONDAS

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- 1 TOOLBOX MURDER
- 2 ANACONDAS
- 3 TAG-NIT
- 4 THE TERMINAL
- 5 DODGEBALL

Gotesco Grand Central

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- 1 UNDERWORLD
- 2 NAGDADALAGA
- 3 TAG-NIT
- 4 THE TERMINAL
- 5 DODGEBALL
- 6 ANACONDAS
- 7 RESERVE
- 8 RESERVE
- 9

Marasana

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- 1 THE TERMINAL
- 2 ANACONDAS
- 3 TAG-NIT

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- 1 RESERVE
- 2 RESERVE
- 3 TAG-NIT
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- 5 GODSEND

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- 1 YOUNG VIRGIN
- 2 TAG-NIT
- 3 TOOLBOX MURDER
- 4 GODSEND
- 5 ANACONDAS
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- 1 GODSEND
- 2 ANACONDAS
- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 DODGEBALL
- 5 THE NOTEBOOK
- 6 THE TERMINAL
- 7 ANACONDAS
- 8 TOOLBOX MURDER
- 9 HAUNTED SPIRIT
- 10 PRINCESS DIARIES 2

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- 1 THE NOTEBOOK
- 2 THE TERMINAL
- 3 DODGEBALL
- 4 ANACONDAS

Cinema 2000 Target Mal.

(Sta. Rosa, Laguna) tel (049) 637.0926

- 1 STEPPORD WIVES
- 2 THE TERMINAL
- 3 ANACONDAS

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

- 1 STEPPORD WIVES
- 2 THE TERMINAL
- 3 ANACONDAS
- 4 RING-O

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall

(Brisa) tel (049) 411.1146

- 1 BULLETS
- 2 ANACONDAS
- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 STEPPORD WIVES

Cinema 2000 Cinemagix

(Urdaneta) tel (0475) 568.6772

- 1 WEREWOLF (GINGER SNAP-2)
- 2 CHRONICLE OF RIDDICK
- 3 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

Cinema 2000 Metrotown

(Tarlac) tel (045) 982.1729

- 1 EYE
- 2 ETERNAL SUNSHINE
- 3 PRINCESS DIARIES 2
- 4 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

Cinema 2000 Waltermart

(Pamalan) tel (044) 7953328

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 PRINCESS DIARIES-2
- 3 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

Lianas Cinema

(Alabang) tel 850.1275

- 1 WILD BUTTERFLY
- 2 SUSAT
- 3 TAG-NIT
- 4 ETERNAL SUNSHINE

Lianas MovieCity

(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7282

- 1 ANACONDAS
- 2 HAMOG
- 3 THE TERMINAL
- 4 STEPPORD WIVES
- 5 DARK DANCER

Mega Center Mall

(Calabcanan City) tel (044) 463.3283

- 1 SPIRAL
- 2 THE CINDERELLA STORY
- 3 ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
- 4 HOUSE OF THE DEAD

Fiesta World Mall

(Uap) tel (043) 981.0190

- 1 BURUNG
- 2 DODGEBALL
- 3 HAMOG
- 4 PRINCESS DIARIES-2

Berma Cinema

(Nasicon) tel 879.2030, 879.2029

- 1 TAG-NIT
- 2 ANACONDAS

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Fine comeback for Chito . . . From page A34

made each death more horrifying to behold.

On the whole, however, "Peng Shui" is a chilling viewing experience, a production that gives Roño ample opportunities to remind us of his estimable and exceptional filmmaking skills.

Let's hope that, after his rather long hiatus, he'll be making one movie after another from hereon.

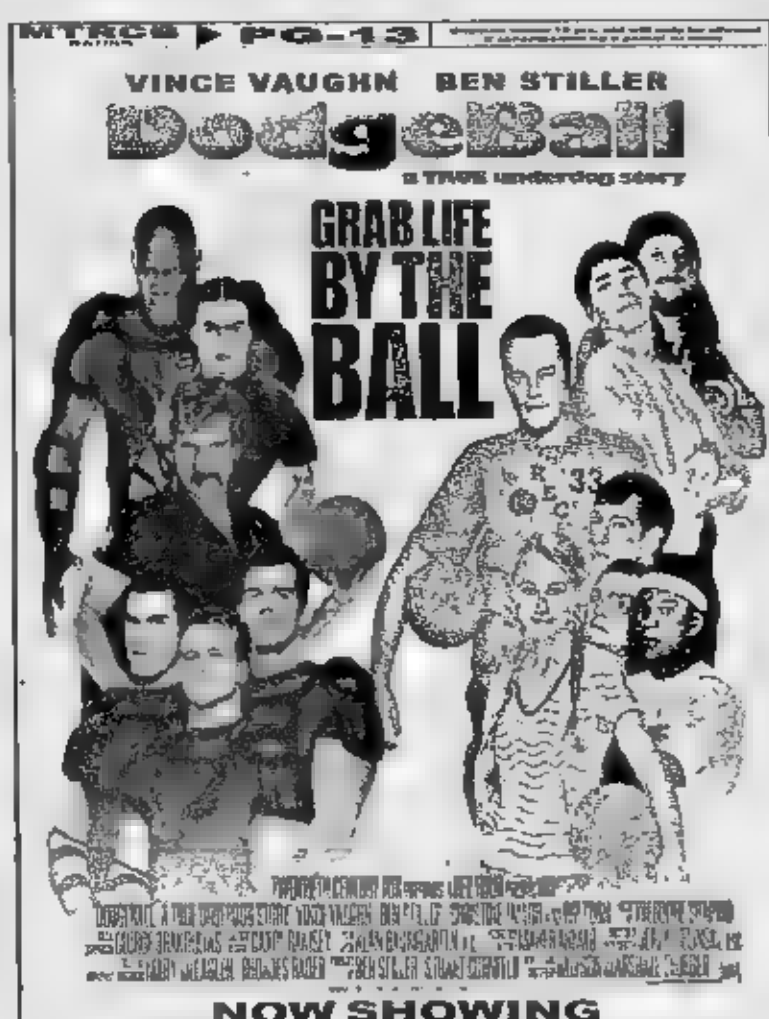
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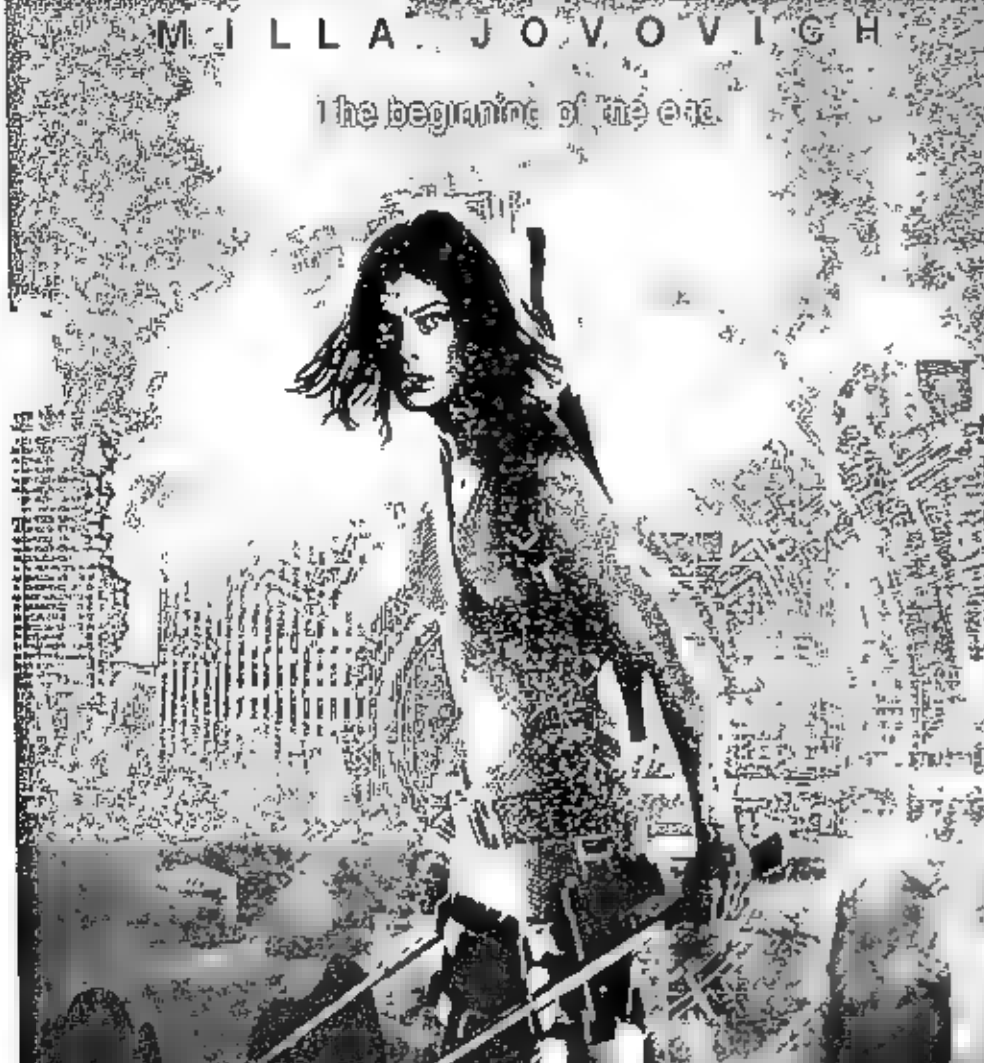


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PATRICIA VELASQUEZ, LL COOL J, CHRISTIAN SLATER, VAL KILMER

OPENS SEPTEMBER 29

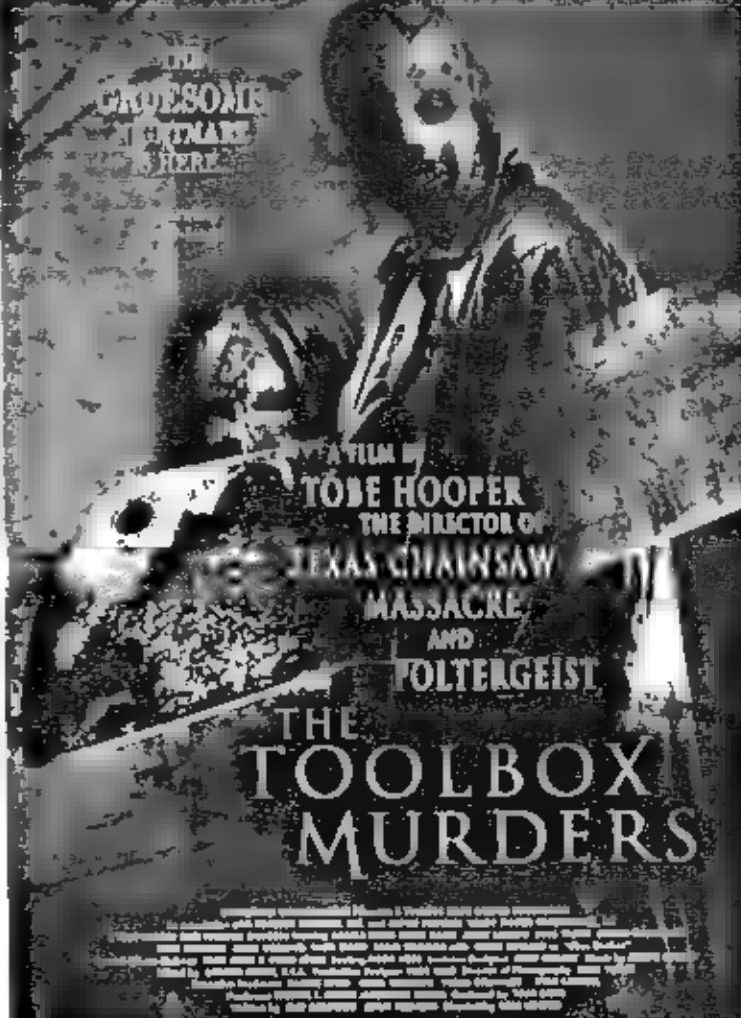
MILLA JOVOVICH
The beginning of the end.



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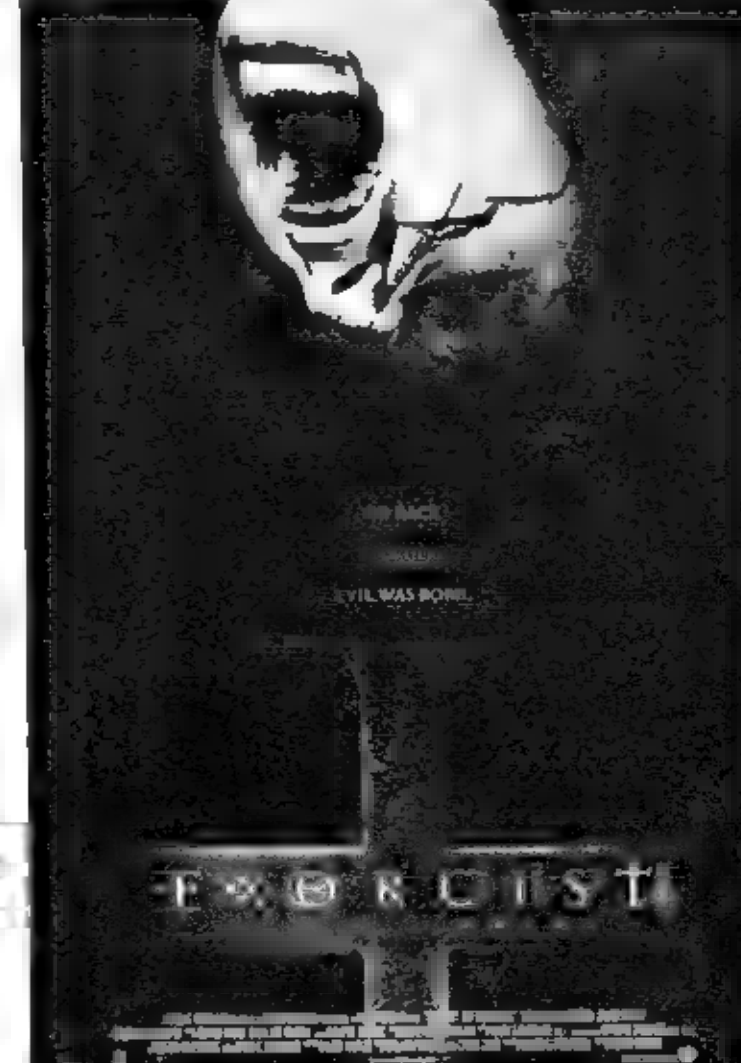


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THE FORCIST

A36 **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2004**

Fine comeback...

From page A35

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FINE/A38

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

THEATER	MOVIE
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMAPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BURIED MY SOUL / KASIGUJAN
ROBEW	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	BUNGAL
TANDEM-2	KATRUHAN MO, JAWOT KO
TIMES	SPY, LEGION OF JAWOT KO

QUEZON CITY

ACT 1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT 4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PARATAY
CORONET A	TAG-INIT
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERJUD NG PUYUK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR

NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA

A	HANDOG
B	CLOSED
C	

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635 20-79 633 8-51 TO 40
CINEMA 1, 2, 3 & 4	THE NOTEBOOK, THE TERMINATOR, PRINCESS CHARLES 2, DOGZILLA
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CINEMA-1	NOW THAT I HAVE YOU
CINEMA-2	HANDOG
CINEMA-3	THE VILLAGE
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	SUGAR (RE-ISSUE)
CINEMA-6	BANGKOK HAUNTED 2
CINEMA-7	LAWNS OF ATTRACTION
CINEMA-8	THUNDERBOLTS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-10 (DTS)	ANACONDAS
CINEMA-11 (DTS)	PRINCESS CHARLES 2
CINEMA-12	THE MOTHERS TONGUE
CINEMA-14	JAWOT KO
CINEMA-15	ALIEN VS. PREDATOR

LORES

CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT

MC CINEMABIC - CABAQUAN

CINEMA-1	ALIEN VS. PREDATOR
CINEMA-2	GARFIELD
CINEMA-4	IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER

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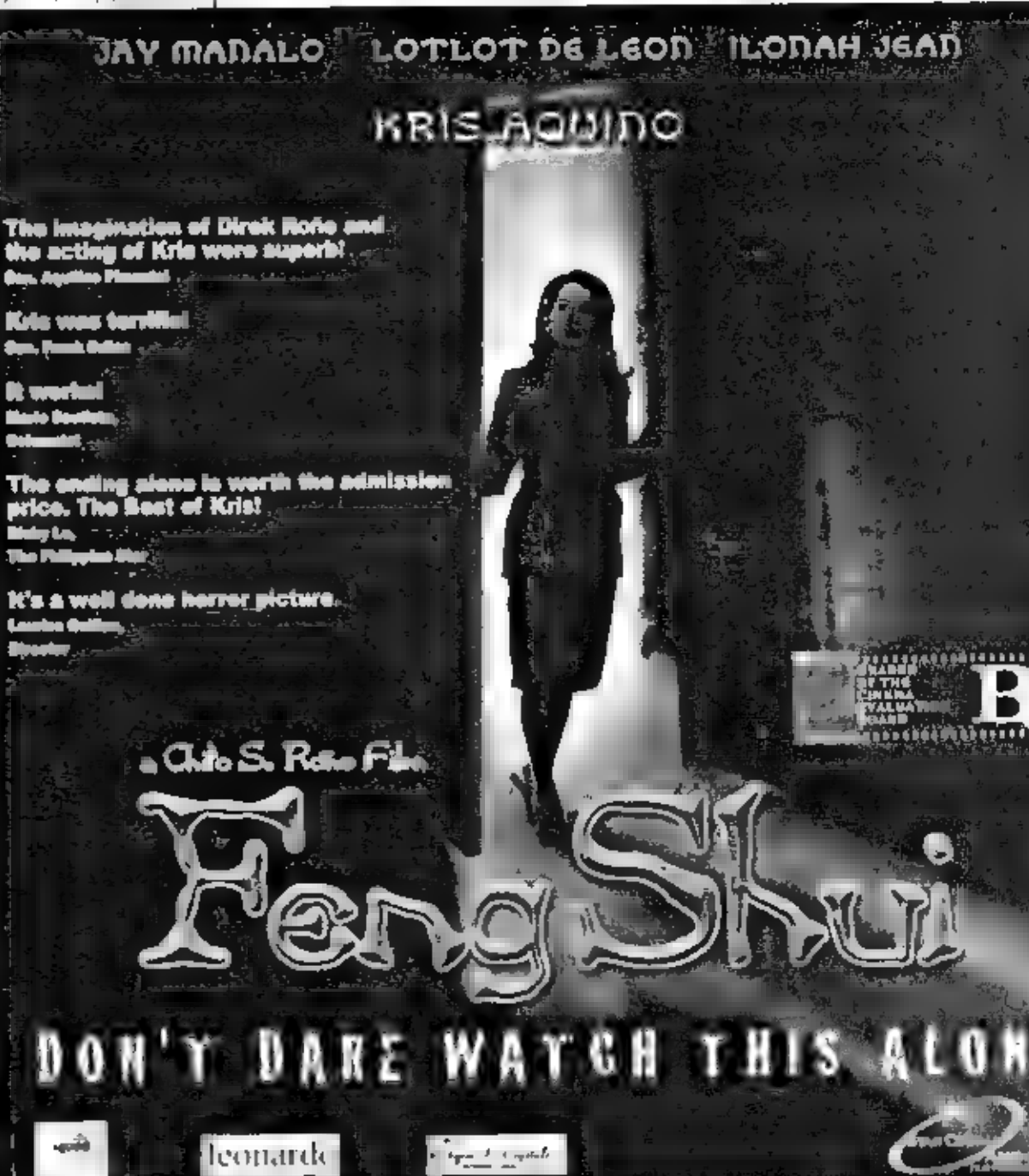
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CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELD

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Melissa Ricka	PA105	RJ Oliva	PA186	Carla Humphries	PA049
Joseph Bitangcol	PA093	Mark Butler	PA183	Raphael Martinez	PA139
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'Imelda' the musical

From page A38

Mystique

On how the concept for the musical originated, Dang explained, "The idea for a musical on Imelda has been floating around for over a decade. And certain things in life happened. 'Miss Saigon' closed on Broadway and left many talented Filipino actors and actresses looking for work but there were few projects out there. The largest Filipino population outside of the Philippines resides in Los Angeles so East West wanted to have more plays of the Filipino experience."

"The mystique that is Imelda grew stronger especially when she returned to the Philippines and we heard less and less of her in the States. But the actual manifestation of the work didn't happen until a collaboration with the Academy of New Musical Theater encouraged us to write and produce it since new hit musicals have been very sparse in the last few years, especially Asian Pacific ones. So why not try our hand in it?"

"Certainly, the documentary proved that there was an interest in Imelda Marcos, the person."

Oyama revealed, "The main source of information was books. Among them, I would say the book by Carmen Navarro Pedrosa called 'The Untold Story of Imelda Marcos' was the most significant. It seemed to get to the soul of the woman more than the others. Imelda is colorful and will always be controversial but I must credit the Pedrosa book with getting me truly interested in her life."

"I also read books about the Marcos regime and several on the Aquinos. In addition to the Ramona Diaz documentary, I saw another documentary about Imelda put out by A & E (a US channel). There was also a Website on Ninoy Aquino which had informative insights into his imprisonment."

Asked from whose point of view the musical will be told, Dang said, "It will be more from an omniscient point of view so that the audience will be able to decide on their perspective of Imelda and her actions."

Strong women

What attracted him to mount a musical on Imelda? Dang said, "The way that 'Evita' was produced was an inspiration for how a musical about a very famous and powerful woman could prove entertaining, educational and thought-provoking. As an artistic director of an Asian American theater, I am always looking for good roles and opportunities for Asian Pacific artists. Imelda's story seemed perfect for a musical since musicals present high drama and emotions that cannot be told by mere words."

Dang stressed the possible impact of a project like "Imelda." He said, "The potential for 'Imelda,' the musical, can be big by giving more opportunities to Asia-Pacific musical performers, having more mainstream audiences

learn more about Imelda, and giving visibility to Imelda herself."

"Imelda" will premiere on May 11, 2005 at the David Henry Hwang Theater. The venue is named after the award-winning playwright who is part-Filipino and who wrote such Broadway gems

as "M. Butterfly," "Golden Gate" and the book of the revival of "Flower Drum Song" which starred Lea Salonga.

Preview performances are from May 5 to 8. The musical will run until June 5, 2005. Ticket information is available at www.eastwestplayers.org.

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PG-13

THE TERMINAL

11:10, 1:50, 4:30
7:10, 10:20
GP

ANACONDA

11:05, 1:20, 3:35
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THE TERMINAL

11:10, 1:45, 4:20, 6:55, 9:30

THE TERMINAL

12:00, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10

ANACONDA

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A word of advice to divers from an Ichthyological Society in Florida. When encountering aggressive sharks in open water, "...orient back-to-back with your partner and gradually rise to the surface and the safety of your boat..." But what if your boat has left you? And what if you don't have anything to stave off repeated attacks by these vicious predators that will not stop until they've gotten a piece of you?

Premiere



Such is the premise of Open Water, the toast of this year's Sundance Film Festival. Described by some as "Blair Witch of the open seas", the film centers on a diving couple (played by Blanchard Ryan and Daniel Travis) who have been inadvertently left behind by their boat. Alone and adrift, they soon find themselves surrounded and besieged by the meanest, fiercest sharks.

Open Water has defied conventional Hollywood filmmaking in more ways than you can imagine. For one its budget falls way below the radar of a typical suspense romp of its kind. But more than that, perish all thoughts of computer generated imagery or mechanical models (like those used in "Jaws") while viewing the shark attack sequences in this movie.

That's because the sharks here are for real, folks.

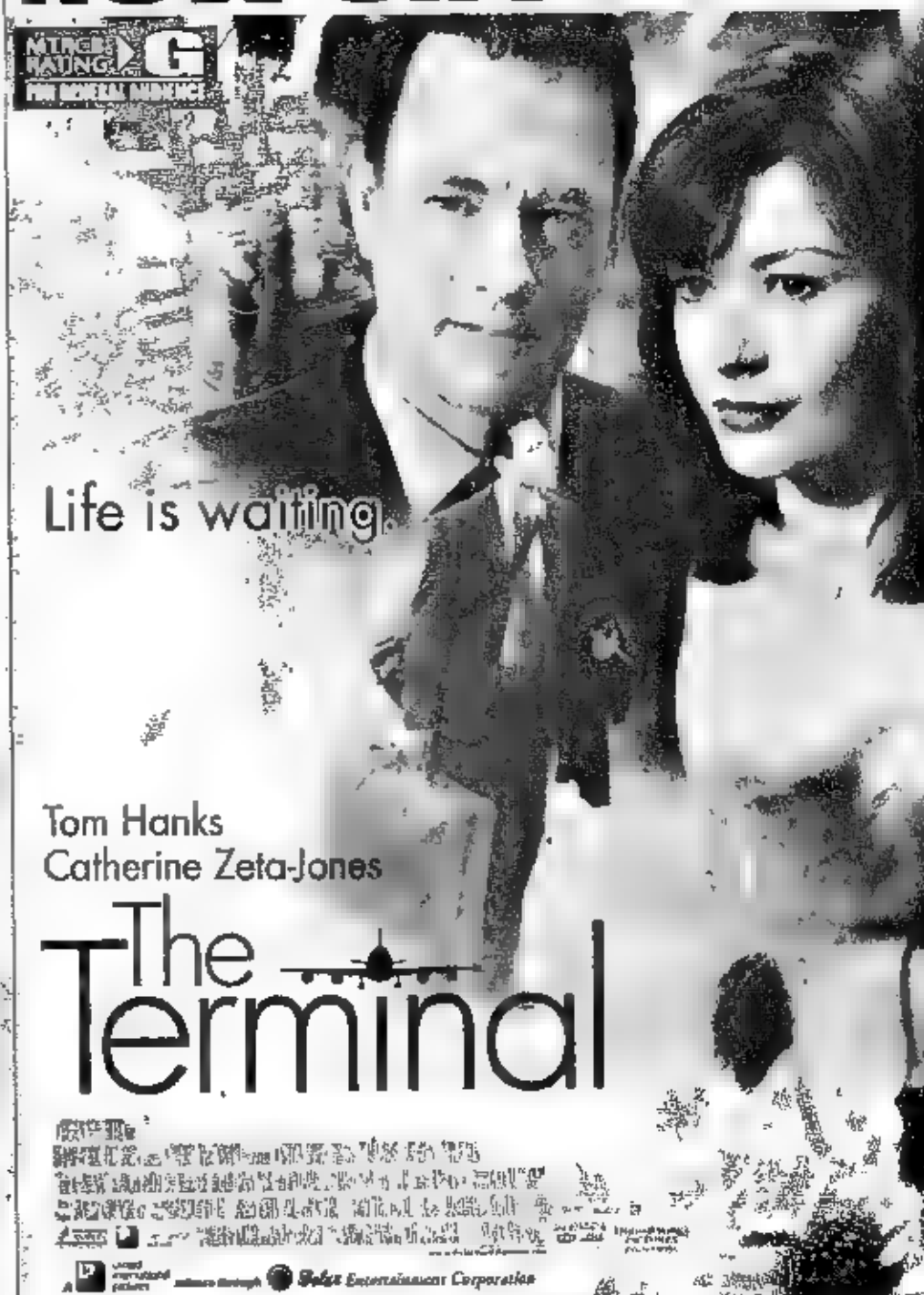
Talk about suspension of disbelief.

The Sundance sensation was quickly snapped up by Lions Gate. On its first week of wide release it landed among the top ten grossers of the week in North America.

Open Water scares you starting October 6. It is released by Viva International Pictures.



NOW SHOWING



ENTERTAINMENT

More than 3 hours and a 'major blunder'

By Marinel R. Cruz

ACOUSTIC singer Nyoy Volante committed what someone in the audience described as "a major blunder" during the 2004 Awit Awards show Thursday night when he declared Gary Valenciano the winner of the new male performer award, which was meant for Erik Santos.

Nyoy, along with Kyla and Nina, were presenting the awards for the best new male and female performers of the year. Kyla and Nina enumerated the names of the nominees, while Nyoy was to proclaim the winners.

"We have the wrong envelope," said Nyoy. When a new envelope was handed to him, he announced Gary V as the winner. The audi-

ence was dumbfounded. The director shouted "cut!"

Later in the show, host KC Montero would jokingly say: "Gary V is very happy to be proclaimed a 'new male.'"

A very happy Erik Santos ("I Believe I Can Fly," Star Records) went out the stage when his name was finally called during the second take. By then, the audience present at the NBC Tent in Fort Bonifacio already knew that Gary V would win the award for best performance by a male recording artist.

Beyond midnight

Gary won for "Ang Aking Munting Bituin," the theme of Maryo J. de los Reyes' "Magnifico."



SCENE STEALER Tessa Prieto-Valdes and recording artist Eddie Gil present awards for best duet and best group.

GARY V correctly wins best duet award with Kyla for "Sana'y Maulit Muli."

PHOTOS BY RANDY MORILLONA

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"As a son, I want to offer this award to my dad (Vic Valenciano)," Gary said in accepting his trophy. "After 20 years in the business, a lot of things are still happening and I still have a lot to look forward to."

The show lasted for more than three hours, until way past midnight. The audience could no longer wait for the major awards to be handed out so that by the time presenter Lea Salonga announced Parokya ni Edgar's "Bigotilyo" as album of the year, the NBC Tent was already half-empty.

Gary also won the best duet award with Kyla for "Sana'y Maulit Muli" from EMI Philippines Inc. The song was Gary's second duet with Kyla, the first being "Can We Just Stop and Talk a While," which won for him the best male trophy in the MTV Awards 2002.

Sarah Geronimo ("Forever's Not Enough," Viva Records) is the best new female performer. Her song "Sa Iyo," written by Jun Murallo, was also declared in the best dance category.

Lani Misalucha, who left the country with her family last April to live in the United States, won the award for best performance by a female recording artist for "Malaya Ka Na" from Viva Records.

Biggest winner

Parokya ni Edgar emerged the most victorious that night, bagging six of the major Awit awards, including best group performer. But Chito Miranda and Vinc. Montaner (vocals), Darius Semaña and Gabriel Cheekee (guitars), Buhawi Meneses (bass) and Dindin Moreno (drums) were not around to accept their awards.

Their "Mr. Suave" took home three trophies for best novelty, song of the year, and music video of the year, while "The Yes Yes Show" was proclaimed best rap song.

"Mr. Suave," also a Star Cinema hit movie starring comedian Vhong Navarro, was composed by Buhawi and produced by Chito.

The alternative group Sugarfree brought home two awards, for best rock song for "Mariposa" and best alternative music for "Burn Out," both from EMI Philippines Inc.

"I Will Find You," sung by Kyla and composed by Slapshock's Jamir Garcia, won as best R&B, while Jay-R's "Bakit Pa Ba," composed by Veneer Saturno, won as best ballad. "Help Me Forget" (Star Records) helped the Akapeas win as best new group.

Ogie Alcasid added another trophy to his big collection for "Pangarap Ko ang Ibig Ka," the theme song of the Regine Velasquez-Christopher de Leon movie from Viva Films.

KC Montero shared hosting chores with veejays Sarah Meier, Karei Marquez and Iya Villania. Those who stayed till midnight were treated to an exhilarating production number by The Dawn, Barbie's Cradle, Salbakuta, Gloe-9 and Sugarfree.

Willy Cruz tribute

Gary V and Lea Salonga paid tribute to Willy Cruz, the Dangal ng Musikong Pilipino Achievement awardee, when they sang some of his songs: "Mahawi man ang Ulap," "Kapag Puso'y Sinugatan," "Init sa Magdamag" and "Sana'y Maghintay ang Walang Hanggan."

The other winners are "Awit sa Ina ng Sto. Rosario" (Universal Records), best inspirational/religious; "Pasko na Naman" (Star Records Inc.), best Christmas song; "Tinamaan Mo" (Jesuit Communications Foundation Inc.), best jazz.

"Take Me Out of the Dark" (Universal Records), best instrumental performance; "Tell Me" (BMG Records), best musical arrangement; "All I Need" (Warner Music Philippines), best engineered recording; and "Noel" (Jesuit Communications Foundation Inc.), best album package.

Sunday **BIZ**

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino



RAYMUND Miranda's says broadcasting keeps him young.

'Lifer's' natural curiosity takes him to the top

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

RAYMUND T. Miranda describes himself as a "lifer"—he has the natural curiosity to learn about anything and everything. And he has the guts to do things he knows nothing about.

This includes accepting a role to play the guitar in a school program even if he did not know how. (He eventually

learned by asking his classmates to teach him, in a matter of weeks).

FIRST JOB

His "lifer" trait paid off. Despite not finishing his degree he is now the highest ranking Filipino in Walt Disney Co. Miranda is the managing director of Walt Disney Television Int'l. in charge of the Disney Channel in Southeast Asia and Korea.

Broadcasting has been in his blood

for over 20 years even if his first ambition was medicine. He says he and his siblings were lucky because they had supportive relatives who sent them to Ateneo and Maryknoll for their elementary schooling. And the relatives made good investments. Raymund and his brother got scholarships to continue high school at Ateneo although he also passed the entrance exams at the

LIFER'S/B2



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Mabuhay MILES

RAYMUND with his family, including sister-in-law Alice Dixon (second from left)

West and east converge in a natural dressing

By Maurice Malanes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—European food is generally bland. No wonder European explorers of the colonial era like Marco Polo and Ferdinand Magellan were not only awed by Asia's gold and pearls but also by the continent's herbs and spices, which, for a long time, had enhanced the taste and aroma of Oriental food.

But a bland taste or flavor could help balance the too-sweet, too-salty or too-pungent tendency of Orientals, particularly Filipinos who love to add *patis*, soy sauce with hot chili and *bagoong* or *gunamos* to an already salty food fare and gorge on sugary-laden halo-halo for dessert.

It is this "checking and balancing" that one can discover in three kinds of natural and preservative-free dressing, which are proudly made in Baguio.

The convergence of something French, Italian and American and something Pinoy in these three kinds of dressing has made the new products bestsellers.

The woman behind these health dressings is Aurora "Auring" Tamayo-Bautista, an entrepreneur, writer, educator, mother and spiritual counselor.

Named "Iggy's House," each of the new products—French, Italian and strawberry dressings—has an interesting history.

The products' history was built on friendships, relationships and business partnerships Auring and her businessman and sportsman husband, Leonides or "Des," established with other people here and from opposite ends of the globe.

French connection

It must have been a blessed coincidence when French couple Dr. Robert and Fernande Fox, came to Baguio in 1978 and the Bautistas were among the first persons to become their friends.

Brent School, which Anglican missionaries established here in the early 1900s, asked Dr. Fox to help set up and head a junior college.

Shortly afterwards, however, Dr. Fox suffered a stroke. Although he survived, the French anthropologist begged off to accept the job because of his health.

But in love with Baguio's climate, environs and its wonderful people such as the Bautistas, Dr. Fox and his wife opted to make Baguio their home.

They later sought out a business to make Mrs. Fox busy. Employing a cook from a consul friend, Mrs. Fox sought to put up a restaurant serving French cuisine.

She convinced Des and Auring to join her as business partners in the restaurant, which they called *Chez Rivier* (House by the River).

In that restaurant a salad dressing customers requested for was one which was derived from a cookbook Mrs. Fox inherited from her grandmother, an excellent cook.

"Each time people tasted it, they would like to order a bottle," recalls Auring.

Although *Chez Rivier* closed after the Fox couple moved to Manila, Des and Auring sustained the legacy of the French cuisine that Mrs. Fox introduced.

They put up in a new place another French restaurant they called *Fernande* (after Mrs. Fox's given name). The French restaurant, which also played French music, eventually closed in 1986, but the Bautistas pursued the restaurant business, shifting to Filipino cuisine.

Yet, the legacy of that French connection with the Fox couple now persists in the form of Auring's salad dressing products.

From hobby to business venture, Auring has embarked on a hobby of transforming the salad dressing derived from Mrs. Fox's grandma's cookbook into something that can satisfy the Filipino palate.

The original French dressing was basically vinegar, oil, mustard and spices and was, according to Filipino taste, bland.

"I made this more Pinoy by adding some salt and some sugar," says Auring. She did the same to the original Italian dressing.



AURING Tamayo-Bautista

Auring also evolved her strawberry dressing from a raspberry dressing she read about in an old American food magazine.

"After reading that, I thought of coming out with something Baguio so I used strawberry, which are abundant here," she says.

And the beauty of it all is that Auring uses natural, if not organic, ingredients for her products.

"We raise our own strawberries and bell peppers (all used in the dressing) in our 'happy soil,'" she says, referring to the compost-fed soil in the family's five organic greenhouses where tomatoes and leafy greens such as various types of lettuce are also cultivated.

At first, making dressings was just a hobby for Auring. She would thus give away the bottled dressings as gifts to friends during Christmas.

Unknown to her, however, the gifts that she was giving away out of love and friendship would turn out later as a promising business venture.

Last Christmas, for example, Auring gifted *INQUIRER* Northern Luzon Bureau chief Rolly Fernandez with a few bottles of three kinds of salad dressing.

Fernandez, in turn, gifted a couple of bottles of the dressing to *INQUIRER* national editor Jun Bandayrel.

Also an entrepreneur and advocate of organic farming and healthy diet, Bandayrel last April sought out Auring, offering himself to become the sole distributor of the dressing products in Manila.

Packed in almost 300-ml bottles, the products—particularly the strawberry dressing—clicked in Manila.

Every two weeks, Bandayrel would order three boxes (each box contains 24 bottles) of each of the three kinds of dressing.

If she includes local customers here and some occasional orders from a friend in Singapore with what Bandayrel orders, Auring estimates that an average of 100 bottles are sold daily.

A family affair

Although the dressing products were Auring's idea, members of the Bautista family are involved in one way or another.

Before the salad dressings were first sent out into the market, Auring had to get the quality approval of Des, the "official taster."

The Bautista children also helped design the "Iggy's House" brand name label.

The brand was named after the Bautista couple's eldest son who passed away in 1995.

Helping process the products are three people—a proof that a home-based industry can help generate jobs in this country with legions of unemployed.

Auring seeks to continue improving and evolving the family's dressing products to meet demands of clients. She reveals, for instance, that she will come out with another package of diabetic-friendly dressing products.

And inspired by an idea from Bandayrel, Auring has invited two gourmet cooks to help her write a cookbook using "Iggy's House's" dressing products.

Also experimenting on pickled mangoes, *sayote* and *ampalaya* or bitter melon, Auring continues to explore new ideas and new possibilities for new products, which, she says, can create new jobs.

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Reputable Developers – Bonifacio Triangle benefits from the wealth of experience and track record of Ayala Land, Inc. and Greenfield Development Corp., principal shareholders of FBDC.

Superior Quality – The master-plan, infrastructure and utility systems at Bonifacio

Global City are of the highest standards in the country.

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Greater Accessibility – The site is located along Kalayaan Avenue, allowing direct access from the business district to EDSA and C-5, Manila's main thoroughfares.

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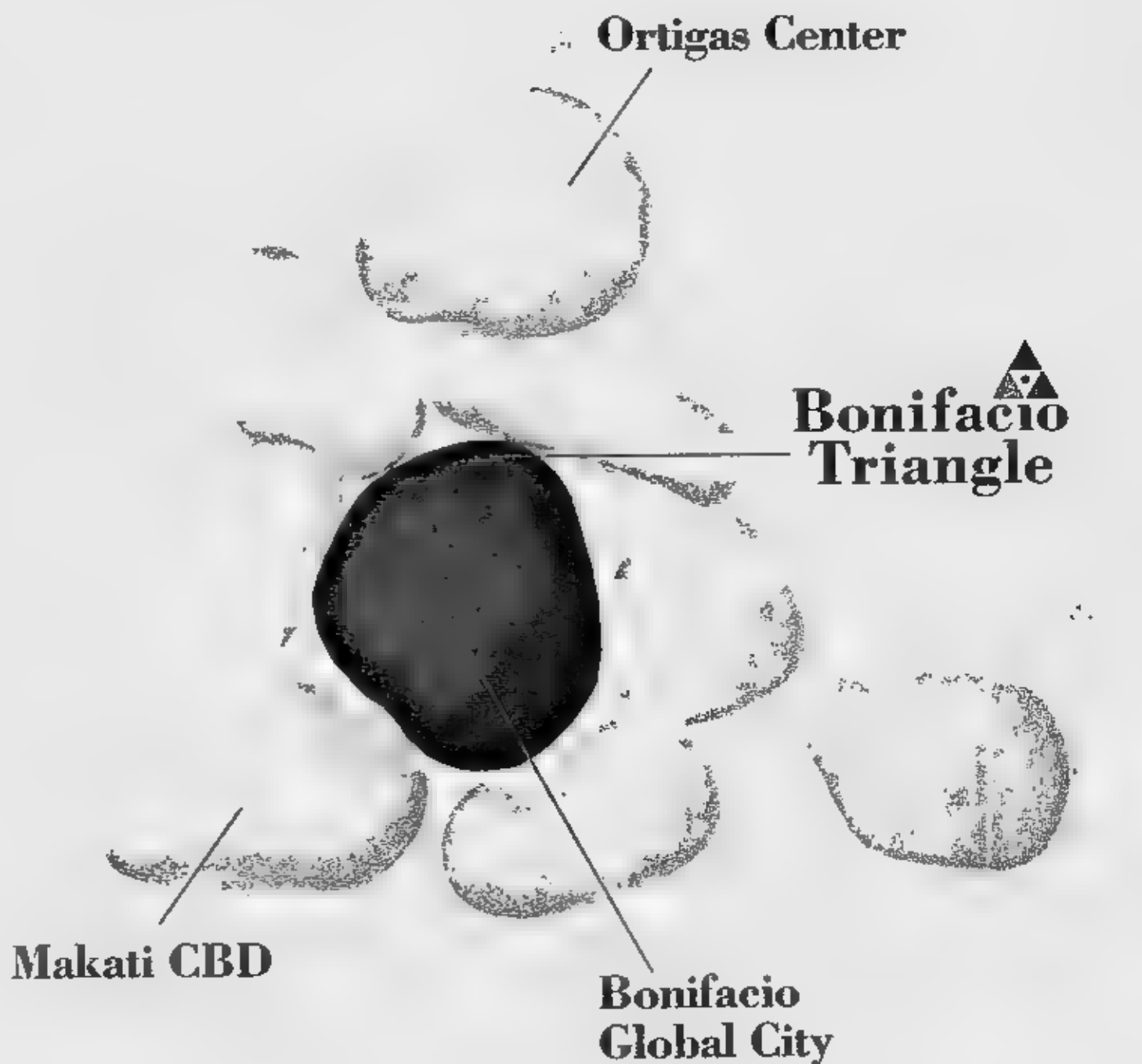
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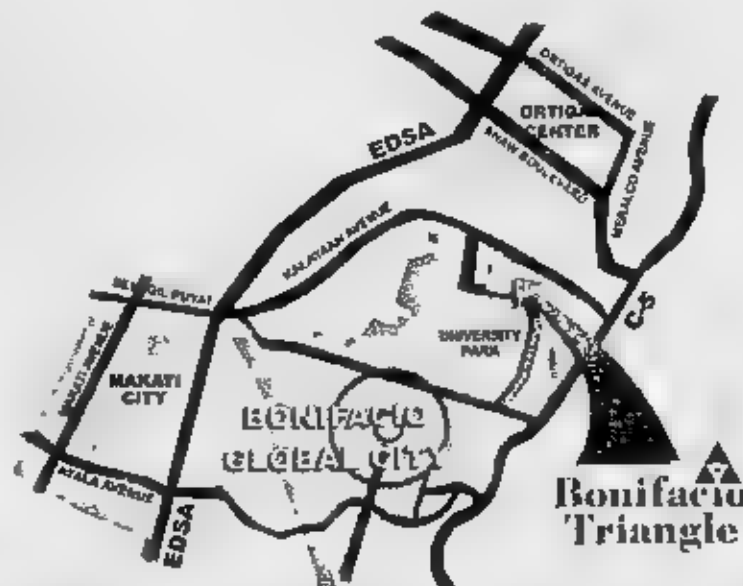
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Bonifacio Triangle

People, Events & Products

Samsung Philippines unveils customer care platform for Q4

"PROVIDE excellent customer care coupled with pioneering product development and high brand visibility". This was the gist of Samsung Electronics' three-fold marketing strategy, which was revealed during the annual Dealers Conference held recently for its Handheld Phone business.

Samsung top officials led by its

president and CEO Sang Youl Eom, vice president for sales and marketing - ICT Maeng Dal Bae were present to provide updates and corporate-related developments to the dealers. Samsung's customer service group has cited a marked improvement in its service index, reporting that it can now repair hand held phones within twelve hours. For the fourth quarter, the company targets to reduce repair time to two hours.

"Samsung will tap into the lifetime value and long-term loyalty of customers through prompt responses and actions to product inquiries and repairs," Eom said. The company will also give frequent buyers the privilege of being the first to be in the know about the latest products. Through specialized promos, consumers can win top-of-the-line appliances by simply accomplishing the product registration card (PRC) after

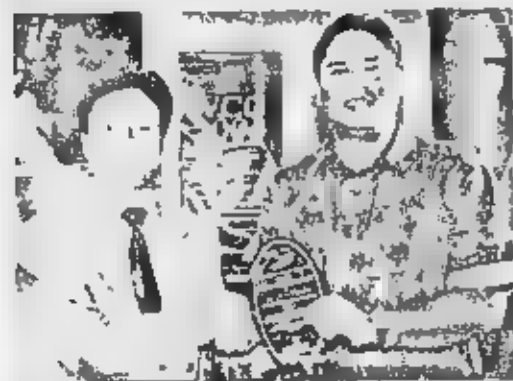
every purchase of a Samsung product.

According to Bae, Samsung will continue to maintain high visibility through corporate sponsorships and multi-media advertising. "During the last quarter, we launched corporate social responsibility campaigns through such projects as the DigitAll Hope Regional Social Program and the P1 million reward for the Filipino athlete who brings home an Olympic gold. "These efforts were designed to strengthen Samsung's commitment as part of the Filipino community."

During the gathering, business dealers from all over the country were also treated to a stunning display of the latest cutting-edge cell-phones. Among the products showcased were the i700 PDA-pocket PC, the 730 megapixel camcorder phone and X900 MP3 phone with external speakers.



THE SAMSUNG P730 is a megapixel camcorder phone



PSC CHAIR PLEDGES SUPPORT

Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) chair Eric Buhan has recognized the Philippine contingent to the 2004 World Cyber Games (WCG) in San Francisco, USA as 'athletic representatives' to the annual videogame competition. As such, the members of the Philippine team will be given the same support as regular athletes competing abroad. Eric Buhan's pledge was given during the awarding ceremonies of the 2004 WCG Philippine Preliminary 3rd Samsung Cyber Games held at the Glorietta Activity Center. This will be the third time the Philippines is sending a delegation to the World Cyber Games. The Philippine delegation is composed of nine members playing in four different videogame events. The Philippine representatives are Team PT&T-IX (Kris Romillo, Paolo Nanello, Arvin Agbisil, Gary Guevarra and Mark Irosa) for Counter-Strike: Condition Zero, John Cruz for WarCraft 3: The Frozen Throne, Marvel Mendoza and Marko Mendoza for StarCraft: Brood War, and Israel Magante for Need for Speed: Underground.

Artemex now in Manila

ARTEMEX, exquisite handcrafted accessories from Mexico is now in Manila. These fine pieces of sterling silvers with real flowers inside have caught the metro by storm, opening its newest branch in SM Megamall.

Fashionistas have sworn to the elegant and stylish flair each unique Artemex piece exudes. The accessories line carries a wide range from earrings to pendants and more. Each piece is the product of constant and extensive research, careful dedication, and a lot of hard work.

Spice up your corporate wear with one of its colorful pendants and you're sure to make a powerful yet feminine statement in the corporate world. Dare to make a difference with a pair of jeans, plain white shirt, and a pair of Artemex earrings that will set you apart from the rest.

Dorothy Aroyo, a certified fashionista and working as an assistant brand manager for one of the top one hundred companies in the Philippines, just loves her Artemex accessories. Saying "I can wear my Artemex earrings and matching pendant with any of my outfits

whether I'm wearing a three piece suit going to a power meeting or a slinky black dress for my big date. It helps me stand out even without trying"

More and more people are seeing the excellent quality and the exquisite style of Artemex pieces. Grab a pair of earrings, a pendant, bracelet and you're sure to come back for more. There are a lot of designs to choose from. These are ideal wedding souvenirs, and gift for your loved ones too.

Artemex is exclusively distributed in the Philippines by Eggway Inc, the same company behind Eight, locally manufactured beaded accessories that have been a staple in every stylist's list.

So don't just follow the trend, set it. Indulge yourself with these unique pieces that spell élan.

Artemex flagship stores are at 4th Floor Bldg. A of SM Megamall, and at The Shops, Greenhills Shopping Center. They can also be found in 215 The Gift Shop, Wilson, Greenhills, and at Salon West, Bohol Ave., Quezon City.



EQ DRY LAUNCHES NEW TVC

EQ Dry recently launched its latest TVC 'Candy', which showcases its faster absorbency versus leading diaper brands, with ace comedienne and new mother Candy Panglinan as its product endorser. EQ Dry's brand manager Roxan Pailloc said Candy was the perfect endorser for the product, since she exemplified the qualities of women who are wise when it comes to tak-

ing care of their babies. Shown during the contract signing (from left) are Pailloc, Candy Panglinan, Angel Valenciano, Genesis president, and Milette Soto, senior product manager. Standing as witnesses (from left) are McCann Erickson's business unit manager Bernadette Chincano and Carmencita Nalciano, account manager.

INQUIRER, SALT & LIGHT VENTURES SIGN AGREEMENT TO LAUNCH IEES

The Philippine Daily Inquirer and Salt & Light Ventures Inc recently signed an agreement to launch the Inquirer Executive Seminar Series (IESS). The first offering of the IEES is the mega-leadership learning event - John Maxwell Live! in Manila - Building Teams. Building Leaders to be held on Sept. 15 (6 to 9:30 p.m.) at the Araneta Coliseum and Sept. 16 (whole day) at the PICC. To date, more than 11,000 executives, managers and their teams have registered for this ground breaking leadership learning event. Photo shows Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, CEO of the Philippine Daily Inquirer (right), Ardy Roberto, CEO of Salt & Light Ventures Inc (center) and



Celme Madamba, AVP - strategic marketing communications (left) sign a partnership agreement to launch the IEES starting with the John Maxwell Live! in Manila. Call 737-1569 for free delivery of tickets or 813-2732/03 for purchase of bulk tickets. Log on to www.inq7.net to order tickets online.



CDO-FOODSPHERE MEDICAL MISSION

Meat processing firm CDO-Foodsphere Inc recently held a medical mission that benefited some 300 families in Valenzuela City. The event is part of an annual program designed to showcase the corporate social responsibility of the food com-

pary. Free medicines were made possible by United Laboratories and Pascual Laboratories. On hand to assist patients and beneficiaries were company volunteers led by CDO-Foodsphere's assistant general manager Marites Escarcha (center).

RP hosts 6th Ista session

THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture - Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources presents the 6th Ista (International Symposium on Tilapia Aquaculture) to be held on Sept. 12 to 16 at the PICC. The symposium will have special emphasis on the advances in genetic development of tilapia breeds, development of international markets and opening new markets for Philippine-produced tilapia products. Fieldtrips are being organized to nearby aquaculture sites. Registration fee for local participants is P3,000 to cover food and conference kit. Foreign delegates have to chip in \$400 to participate in the symposium. For more information, call Dr. Melchor Tayaman at (044)456-0241/(044)456-0670 or Melanie Guerra at (02)372-6714.

Chili's Swatch promo

CHILI'S is giving away Swatch watches to lucky Chili's guests. Simply dine in at any Chili's branch in Greenbelt I, Greenhills or Tomas Morato every Friday and Saturday night from 6 to 9 p.m. from Aug. 20 to Sept. 26 and get a chance to win a Swatch watch in each branch every weekend. To join the raffle, guests need to drop their business cards on the night of the draw in a bowl or box located in the outlet. Guests who have no business cards can fill out pieces of paper and drop these into the bowl. No minimum purchase is required to join the raffle. These cards and pieces of paper will be collected from 7:15 to 7:30 p.m. on the night of the draw. The draw will start at 7:30 p.m.

Mocha Blends offers Franchising Program

MOCHA Blends Espresso Coffee-Australia is a main participant in the 5th Cebu Int'l Franchise and Business Opportunity Expo 2004 from Sept. 17 to 19, at the Ayala Center Exhibit Area, Cebu Business Park, Cebu City (booth nos. 5 and 6). Their participation in this event is brought about by their firm belief that franchising is the business path that will uplift the Philippine's progressive, promising growth and development towards a strong republic. To know more of Mocha Blends' Franchising Program, call Luis de la Cruz at 0920-9204750 or Arnel Agbay at 0920-9215350/374-3098.

PACCD dermatology confab

THE PHILIPPINE Academy of Clinical and Cosmetic Dermatology (PACCD) is holding a dermatology convention on Oct. 1 to 3 at the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel. Current trends in dermatology and dermatologic surgery will be tackled by foreign and local speakers. Calling all doctors and specialist, please register early. For inquiries, call telefax (02)714-4282 (look for Calina).



BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK REWARDS BROKERS CIRCLE

To further strengthen its partnership with its pool of accredited brokers, BPI Family Savings Bank launched an exclusive treat for Brokers Circle members, the Brokers Circle Rewards Plus 2004. A program under BPI Family Savings Bank's Happy Family Housing Loan, the Brokers Circle Rewards Plus 2004 lets members enjoy every successful housing loan referral they bring in by earning rewards. Aside from the standard referral fee the brokers receive, they earn points and exchange these points for grocery

items, dinners for 2, spa treatments, overnight hotel accommodations or a sofa bed all for free. Brokers Estela Guerrero, Valentina Engracia and Luningning Cruz are among the privileged ones who were rewarded premium items. But the big winner for the first batch of awards was Josephine Gaston who took home a colored TV, a living room and a dining room showcase. She is shown receiving her rewards from BPI loan division head VP Albert Pascual and BPI Family Savings Bank president Alfonso Salcedo Jr.

Product Files

Put your best foot forward

TITANIA from Germany shares this step-by-step guide to scoring salon quality pedicure in the comforts of your home: Cut - Leaving less than 1/8" white tip, cut toenails straight across with Titania nail cutter. Then file from corner to corner to keep nails from splitting with Titania's emery nail files; Buff - Gently sand down any ridges with Titania nail buffer; Soak - Apply a cuticle remover, then soak feet for 2 to 5 minutes in warm water with Titania Vital Footbath; Scrub - Push back cuticle with an orange stick and slough off dead skin on damp feet using Titania's Double sided foot file; Moisturize - Dry feet thoroughly and rub in Titania's Protective Balm then rehydrate cuticles with a dab of cuticle oil; Polish - Press your toes in separators so that they do not rub on each other. Brush 1 coat of the



base coat over each nail and allow it to dry for a minute. Then apply 2 coats of color and finish with a topcoat. Titania foot and beauty care products are exclusively distributed by Flstar Distributors Corp and are available in Landmark, Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall Department Store, Shopwise Alabang and Libis, and in selected Watson's and RDS.



Ministop's Sine for Free

MINISTOP has a wonderful treat for loyal customers like you. Buy at least two of any of the following products - Nestle KitKat, Nestle Choclates, Platts, Vout, Mountain Dew, Absolute Distilled Water or Summit Natural Drinking Water - for a chance to win in Ministop's Sine for Free. Every week from Sept. 2 to Oct. 6, Ministop is giving away a pair of movie passes to Robinsons Movie World to three lucky customers in every Ministop Store. Visit the nearest Ministop today to learn more about this exciting promo.

RMSC Slalom grand prix

RMSC Slalom grand prix will hold its 7th leg today at SM City Fairview. Per AAP regulations, to be declared a class and overall champion, driver must possess an FIA Slalom Competition License. The RMSC Motoring event rules are now available to all interested parties. For details, call 928-6951/920-6356 or 0917-8119337/0920-9056932. Email: slalom@skyinet.net and website www.slalom.ph sports club.

Canyon Woods 7th year

CANYON Woods celebrates its 7th anniversary on Sept. 18. Activities lined up for the whole day are: a golf tournament in the morning while an "All-Out Blowout Jungle Party" with Ranger Cany's (the club's mascot) 2nd birthday is set in the afternoon. A Mass will precede the gala dinner with performers Bimbo Cerrudo and the Spirit of '67 Band. Come join the fun in your colorful retro outfit! For details call 521-7878.

Metrobank cops Bank of the Year Award anew

METROBANK, the country's largest bank, bagged the prestigious Bank of the Year Award for the second time, reinforcing its premiere standing among Philippine banks. The Banker magazine, a trusted global financial intelligence source based in London, gave the award.

The Banker magazine editor-in-chief Stephen Tunnewell congratulated Metrobank for "a fitting reward for your bank's efforts over the past 12 months." Formal awarding ceremonies took place on Sept. 7, at the Dorchester Hotel in London. Metrobank was represented by Maria Victoria Rocha, assistant vice president of Metro Remittance Center, Metrobank's subsidiary in the United Kingdom.

The 75-year old publication cited Metrobank for its growth and performance, human capital initiatives, market strategies and progress while prevailing in an increasingly competitive market, global and local political uncertainties, and economic dif-

ficulties. It has consistently emerged on top of the Philippine banking industry in key areas.

"This award is a testament to the Bank's commitment to excellence in serving our customers and responding to their ever-changing needs," said president Antonio Abacan Jr. Metrobank first bagged the award in 2002 when it was cited for its "focus on asset and capital quality which has provided it with a strong resource base and enabled it to increase profits in a tough market."

Core financial data and statistics, as well as other elements including the bank's performance and credentials were evaluated by the awards body, which gave emphasis to the bank's achievements, technology initiatives and overall strategy. The judging also incorporated the editorial team members' market knowledge of the bank. The Banker is a member of the Financial Times Group of London. It publishes annually the ranking of the world's top 1000 banks.

WANTED**REGIONAL SALES SUPERVISORS**

— must have successful regional supervisory in handling sales team & sales experience to supermarket and other retail outlets

**PROVINCIAL SALES REPRESENTATIVES
SALES COORDINATORS / MERCHANDISERS**

for supermarkets in Northern & Central Luzon, Pampanga, Negros, Cebu & Northern Mindanao

— must have good contacts and booking experience in supermarkets in the areas mentioned

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

— not more than 30 years old
— local resident preferred and willing to travel within the region
— hardworking, honest, aggressive and result-oriented

For interview appointment, qualified applicants may send or apply with own handwritten resumes with previous working experience and outlets handled, your contact number and most recent photo to 65 Joy Street, Grace Village, Quezon City, Metro Manila or e-mail to dmpl168@yahoo.com



Retiro Branch
Is accepting applicants for:

STORE SUPERVISOR

The applicants must be a graduate of Management or any business related course, with at least one (1) year hands-on experience in store operations and customer satisfaction. He/She must have strong leadership potential and with excellent communication and interpersonal skills.

Please apply in person with your comprehensive resume/bio-data and a passport ID size beginning on Monday, September 13, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 nn. at:

Red Ribbon BakeShop - Retiro Branch
G/F Edificio Enriqueta
422 N. S. Amoranto St. (formerly Retiro)
corner D. Tuazon Ave., Sta. Mesa Heights
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Tel. No. 7327855 or 7327857
email: arcinas@redribbon.ph

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Regional Office No. 12, Cotabato City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Agriculture, Regional Office No. 12, Cotabato City invites all interested dealers/suppliers of the items listed below, to apply for eligibility and to bid for the procurement of said items to be distributed in the four provinces of Region 12

A. North Cotabato Province

1. Zinc Sulfate
2. Zinc Phosphate

Approved Budget - P1,217,800.00

Source of funding: GMA Rice

B. Sultan Kudarat Province

1. Zinc Sulfate
2. Zinc Phosphate

Approved Budget - P1,217,800.00

Source of funding: GMA Rice

C. South Cotabato Province/Sarangani Province/General Santos City

1. Zinc Sulfate
2. Zinc Phosphate

Approved Budget - P1,906,600.00

Source of funding: GMA Rice

Minimum required Bid Security is One percent (1%) of the Approved Budget II in the form of Cash, Certified check, Cashier's check, Manager's check, Bank draft or irrevocable letter of Credit and Two and half percent (2 1/2%) of the Approved Budget II in the form of Surety Bond.

Deadline for submission of Letter of Intent and eligibility requirements shall be on September 22, 2004 at the Office of the Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Department of Agriculture, Regional Office No. 12, Cotabato City. Bid documents, shall be obtained at the office of the Supply Officer, Department of Agriculture, Region XII, Cotabato City upon submission of letter of intent.

Pre-bid conference will be on September 24, 2004 at 9:00 in the morning.

Deadline for the submission of Bids will be on September 27, 2004 at 10:00 in the morning while the opening of bids shall be held simultaneously on such date and time at the office of the BAC Chairman, Department of Agriculture, Region XII, Cotabato City.

The Department of Agriculture reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive defects or formality therein, and accept responsive proposals most advantageous to the government and assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify any bidders for expenses and losses that may be incurred in the preparation of Bids nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) MUSTAPHA G. ISMAEL, CESO IV
Chairman BAC

(PDI - Sept. 12 & 13, 2004)

**LB (Land Bank) Realty
Development Corporation****INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID**

All contractors, registered and/or classified as "MEDIUM" by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) for Buildings and Industrial Plant and preferably with experience in the construction of bank building or projects of identical scope of works and technology, are invited to apply for pre-qualification and to submit their bids for the construction of LBP WEST TRIANGLE (QUEZON CITY) BRANCH OFFICE.

Prequalification requirements may be obtained from the Purchasing Unit. Submission of prequalification documents will be on September 15, 2004 at the Land Bank Realty Development Corporation, 30th flr LBP Plaza, 1598 M.H. del Pilar corner J. Quins Sts. Marikina.

LBRC reserves the right to change the cost estimates, the date of issuance of bid documents pre-bid conference, submission of bids and date of bidding. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBRC to invited bidders.

LBRC likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that they may incur in the preparation of their bid and accept the bid most advantageous to the company.

For further details, please call Engr. Jaime S. Mendoza/Jerry Milton Mingulian/Ares L. Mendoza at 405-7169/405-7134/405-7135.

(SGD)
CHAIRMAN
Committee on Bids and Awards

(PDI - September 12, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

TEODORO G. AGTAY

NESTOR A. LACEDA, SR.

Notice is hereby given to the public that Mr. TEODORO G. AGTAY, whose picture appears above, and Mr. NESTOR A. LACEDA SR. are no longer authorized to act in behalf of Legacy Consolidated Plans, Inc. as of 24 August 2004. As such, any transactions entered into by them shall not be honored by Legacy Consolidated Plans Inc. and its affiliates, All AsiaPlans Corporation, Scholarship Plan Philippines Inc., Legacy Motors Inc.

(PDI - September 12, 2004)



Nippon Life Philippines

INVITATION TO BID

Nippon Life Philippines through its Bidding Committee invites interested and qualified bidders for the disposal of two (2) company vehicles on an **as is where is condition**. The vehicles subject for disposal are as follows:

- 1 unit 1995 BMW 316.I MT
- 1 unit 2000 Ford Lynx GSi AT

The vehicles will be available for inspection from September 13 to 16, 2004 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., please call Ms. Barby Muñoz at telephone no. 753-2151 loc. 201 for details. The Terms of Reference for the Disposal of the Company Vehicles shall be available at the Corporate Affairs Office.

All Bids must be submitted on or before September 22, 2004 at 3:00 p.m. to the Bidding Committee, Nippon Life Philippines, Training Room No. 1, 21st floor, Tower 2, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Avenue, Makati City. The opening of bids will immediately follow in the presence of all the bidders or authorized representative.

Nippon Life Philippines reserves the right to reject any bid or all bids without offering any reason, to waive and required formality therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the company. The company further assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidder/s for any expense or loss that he/they may have incurred in the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) JEM. M. CHENG
Assistant Vice President
Corporate Affairs Division

(PDI - Sept. 12, 2004)



PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

Interested suppliers/dealers are invited to apply and bid for 2 lots supply and installation of new passenger elevators.

The approved budget for this bidding is P5.0 million.

The winning bidder shall deliver the requirements within ninety (90) calendar days upon signing of contract.

Interested bidders must not be related to the head of the procuring entity or any member of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) or BAC Secretariat either by consanguinity or affinity up to the third civil degree.

Prospective bidders may secure eligibility requirements and bid documents from the BAC Secretariat office, 8th flr, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City after payment of a non-refundable bidding fee of five thousand (P5,000.00) pesos. For any inquiry, please call BAC Secretariat Office at Tel. No. 925-24-01 loc. 3688 ask for Ms. Noem Nolasca.

I. PRE-BID CONFERENCE

The pre-bid conference shall be on 14 September 2004 at 1:30 p.m., Pacemaker Room, Basement, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

II. SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

The legal requirements for eligibility of prospective bidders must be personally submitted by the duly authorized representative on 21 September 2004, 4:00 p.m., BAC Secretariat Office, 8th Floor, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

III. OPENING OF BIDS

Bids of eligible bidders will be accepted and opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives on 5 October 2004, at 1:30 p.m., Pacemaker Room, Basement, MAB, PHC, East Ave., Quezon City.

The BAC reserves the right to reject any and all bids waive any defects or informants therein, or accept any bid/s or offer/s which it may consider advantageous and beneficial to the government.

3 September 2004

(Sgd.) MARCIANO F. GATDULA
Vice Chairman, BAC

(PDI - Sept. 5 & 12, 2004)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

ROSMIRANDA C. FELED

Notice is hereby given to the public that Ms. ROSMIRANDA C. FELED, whose picture appears above, was terminated for cause from Legacy Consolidated Plans, Inc. effective 23 August 2004. As such, she is no longer authorized to act in behalf of the corporation and any transactions entered into by her shall not be honored by Legacy Consolidated Plans Inc. and its affiliates, All AsiaPlans Corporation, Scholarship Plan Philippines Inc., Legacy Motors Inc.

(PDI - September 12, 2004)

WAREHOUSE FOR RENT

- Located at I-A Masagana St., Quirino Hi-way Marikina Subd., Bases, Quezon City
- 2,735.51 sq.m. whose w/ 10.56 meters high ceiling
- Immediately available for occupation by Oct.
- Ideal for storage & light manufacturing companies

Use in manufacturing environmental friendly, tableware products such as plates, bowls, etc. Offered price is very reasonable/cheap as owner plans to migrate abroad

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0917 8379874 (8:00 am to 6:00 pm)

(PDI - September 5 & 12, 2004)

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• MT Mentorship (for Team Leads/Supervisors)
Saturdays
• Occupational Health Seminars

Starting October 4, 2004
• General Business Transcription
• Legal Transcription
For more information, contact
0921-4198911/0917-8444427

DCT-MTC, DUBMAN 631-9888, 632-4714 CAVITE CITY (046) 331-2271, 431-4724
AURORA BLVD., QC 726-4381, 726-4394 ROBAO, CAVITE (046) 437-8834, 437-8864

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E-mail: nstar_1@compass.com.ph

**NOTICE TO THE
PUBLIC****VIRGINIA D. BALAGTAS**

WHOSE PICTURE APPEARS ABOVE IS NO LONGER CONNECTED IN ANY MANNER WITH NORTHSTAR INT'L. TRAVEL, INC./TQ3 TRAVEL SOLUTIONS/TQ3 NORTH STAR. ANY TRANSACTION ENTERED INTO BY HER FROM THE DATE OF HER SEPARATION WILL NOT BE HONORED BY SAID CORPORATION.

(PDI - September 12, 2004)



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo
Quezon City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Armed Forces of the Philippines invites all interested oil producers/suppliers of petroleum products to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid for the SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF PETROLEUM OIL AND LUBRICANTS (POL) requirements of the AFP for one (1) year with an estimated budget of ONE BILLION FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P1.5B) chargeable against the FY-2005 AFP POL Budget.

Only bids from manufacturers and exclusive suppliers/distributors of said product shall be entertained.

The bid documents shall only be available for issuance starting September 06, 2004 until September 20, 2004 during office hours at DND BAC Secretariat, AFP Logistics Command, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. The bid documents shall be issued upon payment of THIRTY THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000.00), which is not refundable.

A Special Power of Attorney, issued by the prospective bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents in its behalf, shall be required before issuance of the said documents.

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on October 07, 2004 at 9:00 AM (local time) at the Silid Panday Pira, 1st Floor Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City. Bidders may submit their queries, if any, in writing to the BAC Secretariat not later than three (3) working days prior to the Pre-Bid Conference.

Deadline for Submission of Eligibility Requirements and Bid Envelopes will be on October 19, 2004 at 9:00 AM (local time) to be immediately followed by the Opening of Bids at the Silid Panday Pira, 1st Floor, Bulwagang Mabini, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

The Armed Forces of the Philippines reserves the right to reject any or all bids based on the grounds for disqualification specified in RA 9184 without assuming any obligation whatsoever for expenses or losses that may be incurred by the bidder(s) in the preparation of the bid.

(Sgd.) ASEC JOSE N FERRER JR
Chairman DND-BAC

(PDI - September 5 & 12, 2004)

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Gaisano goes into uncharted territory—food

THE CEBUANO'S love for smug-ba (grilled foods) is reinforced by the opening of the Manila-based restaurant chain Gerry's Grill at the Ayala Center in Cebu City.

But the Cebuanos need not fret. This Gerry's Grill, after all, is still all Cebuano—at least because of the homegrown partners behind it—Joey Gaisano and Odysseus Suarez.

Coming from different business backgrounds, the two ventured into an uncharted territory—the food business—but not without caution. For starters, they chose a dependable name they could trust.

"Gerry and I go a long way back in college, and even then, I knew him as someone who loved good food. I wasn't surprised then when Gerry's Grill came to be and became a success," says Suarez.

Back in college in the '90s at the then Maryknoll (now Miriam) College, Suarez struck up a friendship with the guy whom he remembers as fun-and-food-loving. That guy was Gerry Apolinario, after whom the rapidly expanding Gerry's Grill was named, and that friendship remained throughout the years.

Forward to 2004, Suarez is now into the transportation business while Apolinario has become an established restaurateur. Two worlds that may possibly never meet but did as Apolinario decides to partner with Suarez to open up Gerry's Grill in Cebu.

In the resto circle, it is known that Apolinario gives his friends the first crack at a partnership for a Gerry's branch. Suarez, a Cebu native, is just about the right person.

Twenty-three-year-old Joey Gaisano, on the other hand, has a family name that rings a familiar bell in the Queen City of the South. But the Gaisanos are more associated with the retail business.

"We ventured before into the food business with Lighthouse (along Mango Drive) here in Cebu. But that's about it. Our decision to put up Gerry's here was thus very well thought of by the family and we know we can never go wrong," explains Gaisano.

A business management graduate from the Ateneo de Manila, Gaisano was ironically not familiar with the name Gerry's Grill at first being based in Cebu most of his life. What he knew of, however, was the food.

"When the idea was first broached to us, I asked what Gerry's Grill was. When I was reminded that I already tasted their food when we had a party at the Libis branch, I instantly recognized it. There was no doubt it would make it in my hometown," Gaisano states.

The Cebu branch may just as well serve as the litmus test for the resto chain as it is the first outside of Luzon. With its success will come the possibility of venturing farther down south in the metro cities of Mindanao.

"Did you know that Cebu has always been the 'model' for the VizMin area. Products, business

—they all want to be here. Perhaps it is because the Cebuanos have discriminating taste, *pihikan karni*. And also because we are price conscious, we always want value for our money. There have been a lot of products which had used Cebu as their test market and almost always, if it catches here, it's good for anywhere else in the country," explains the 40-year-old Suarez.

"Cebu is usually the gateway for most businesses to the Visayas and Mindanao and it is also the test market for us," comments Gaisano.

So far, so good for Gerry's Cebu. Its convenient and safe location also accounts for its patronage.

While some were skeptic of the success of another grill restaurant in a city where barbe-

cue stands can be found in almost every corner, Gaisano and Suarez have high hopes for their new venture.

"But Gerry's is more than smug-ba—it is sisig of Pampanga, pinakbet of Ilocos, chicken inasal of Bacod, crispy pata and many others that are not native with Cebu. One thing is sure, Cebuanos are adventurous when it comes to food and they are willing to try out new places," Gaisano says.

This year alone, four branches had been opened and another one is coming up in Greenhills, San Juan. In the works is a Gerry's Grill in California, United States where the partners will bank on the Pinoy's love for the tasty, home-cooked Filipino dishes that has made Gerry's Grill famous.



ODYSSEUS SUAREZ and JOEY GAISANO



From page B12

eatory, which has since been catering to municipal government officials, employees and visitors.

In January 2002, however, the SLG, which Marlene and Patricia helped form, disbanded after other members migrated to other communities.

Each member got P1,700 in accumulated savings.

With the amount, Marlene stuffed to another business—selling vegetables and sliced fruits in season such as raw mangoes.

She saw to it that the fruits must be sliced and packed in small cellophane bags so elementary pupils, her major customers, could afford them.

Marlene says she would net P50 each day. But she says she is happy about the "fast turnover" of her investment.

Although the SLG she helped form disbanded, Marlene said she learned the discipline of saving.

"Saving at least P5 to P10 each day has become a habit for me," she says and stresses that one, whether earning big or small, must always save for the rainy day.

Letting SLGs bloom

The SLGs to which Milagros and Marlene belonged were among 1,467 SLGs, which Cecap helped organize in Abra, Mt. Province, Ifugao and Kalinga from 1997 to July 2003.

Of these SLGs, 970, or 66 percent of the original SLGs organized, have remained active, including 174 SLGs, which opted to become independent such as the SLG to which Milagros of Dagupan, Abra belongs.

A total of 495 SLGs have since linked up with financial conduits such as seven cooperatives, a rural bank and a non-government organization.

Other SLGs, such as the Duldulao Multipurpose Cooperative featured in the first part of this series, have evolved into independent cooperatives.

While the other SLGs broke up, the SLGs that have persisted continue to inspire other SLGs to mushroom. Cecap estimates that the SLGs and the other village-based savings and financing units (such as cooperatives) that have evolved are now serving 10,000 households in central Cordillera interior villages.

To the Cecap personnel who helped start the SLG phenomenon, the Cordillera hinterland folk's economic difficulty, long tradition and culture of cooperation and unity and their industry are the fertile grounds on which thousands of other SLGs can bloom.

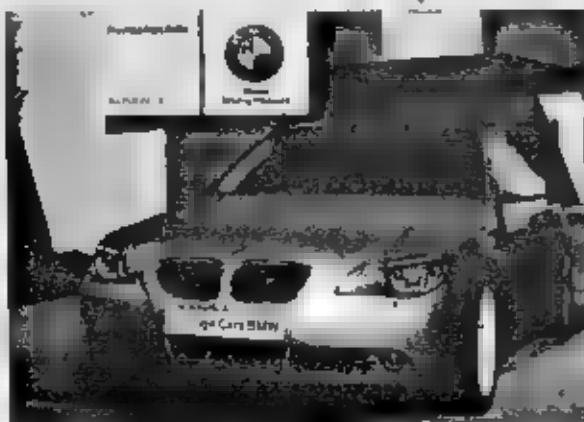
"Through these savings and loans groups, we have seen how seemingly helpless and powerless villagers can actually do something to improve their lot if given the opportunity," says Francis Degay, former Cecap enterprise development specialist.

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the best.**

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BMW Certified Pre-Owned

Whatever model you choose from our wide selection, you will end up with nothing less than sheer driving pleasure. Visit Prestige Cars BMW (Makati).

- Select cars available for 25% downpayment, at 0% interest, for 48 months.
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Prestige Cars BMW (Makati) 2324 Pasong Tamo Ext., Makati City
CPO Direct Line (02) 812 7950 Trunkline (02) 892 8127 to 29
Per CPO-HPD Permit No. 1027 Series of 2004

You cannot go wrong with so many choices.
Hurry to Prestige Cars BMW today.

BMW Certified Pre-Owned:

BMW 530d Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 24,800km, P1,250,000 25% down, 0% interest, 48 months	BMW 316i 2002 Titanium Silver, 17,000km, P1,450,000	BMW 318i Exec. 2004 Oxford Green, 26,000km, P2,050,000	BMW 325i Exec. 2002 Oxford Green, 26,000km, P1,980,000	BMW 520i 2004 Black Sapphire, 1,994km, P3,500,000
BMW 316i 2003 Titanium Silver, 17,000km, P1,450,000	BMW 318i Exec. 2004 Orient Blue, 7,758km, P2,100,000	BMW 325i Exec. 2003 Black Sapphire, 13,000km, P2,250,000	BMW 530d Exec. 2004 Black Sapphire, 8,100km, P4,350,000	
BMW 318i Limo. 2002 Orient Blue, 30,000km, P1,450,000	BMW 318i Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 7,000km, P2,100,000	BMW 325i Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 13,649km, P2,500,000	BMW 525i Exec. 2004 Mystic Blue, 1,000km, P4,400,000	
BMW 318i Limo. 2003 Titanium Silver, 5,532km, P1,700,000	BMW 318i Exec. 2004 Titanium Silver, 2,869km, P2,100,000	BMW 525i Exec. 2003 Titanium Silver, 15,000km, P2,650,000	BMW 735Li 2004 Sterling Gray, 2,000km, P7,300,000	
BMW 316i 1996 Alpine White, 101,153km, P500,000	BMW 320i A 1997 Cayana Red, 4,700km, P875,000	BMW 511i A 1997 Glacier Green, 116,842km, P1,050,000	BMW 523i A 1997 Alpine White, 26,744km, P1,500,000	
BMW 320i A 1997 Boston Green, 57,534km, P780,000	BMW 320i A 1998 Boston Green, 49,422km, P850,000	BMW 523i A 1997 Aspen Silver, 62,151km, P1,450,000	BMW 523i A 2000 Cosmos Black, 42,000km, P1,800,000	

Other cars available:

BMW 316i 1996 Alpine White, 101,153km, P500,000	BMW 320i A 1997 Cayana Red, 4,700km, P875,000	BMW 511i A 1997 Glacier Green, 116,842km, P1,050,000	BMW 523i A 1997 Alpine White, 26,744km, P1,500,000
BMW 320i A 1997 Boston Green, 57,534km, P780,000	BMW 320i A 1998 Boston Green, 49,422km, P850,000	BMW 523i A 1997 Aspen Silver, 62,151km, P1,450,000	BMW 523i A 2000 Cosmos Black, 42,000km, P1,800,000

There's plenty of headroom



Bulgarian Giant
Anca Ivanov Georgiev, who weighs 256 kilos and 9.19 feet in height, poses next to a car too small for him.

even for a human skyscraper.

And nobody else has this but us.

Vertical clearance: 20 ft. high

World's tallest man is listed as more than 9 ft. tall—a physical marvel that's common for the Watusi of Africa. Impressive as it may seem, we didn't design lofts for very tall people.

made our lofts literally lofty for you to have limitless room for ideas on how you do your own interiors. Being bare, each loft will become your statement—your own huge canvas.

Creativity can't be boxed.

It's your only chance to unleash the repressed artist in you. No other place has lofts that can give you as much freedom for self-expression. Every room, every alcove, every nook and cranny can be your mural, your pastiche, your tryptiche or your atelier.

Space is abundant for productive minds. There's nothing here to stifle your style. And your changing moods.

Creativity must be nurtured.

That's why we take care of the headaches. We give you a departure from the standard Burbs. Rockwell is a little city that's contained. Stress is not sanctioned here. Security runs 24-hours daily. In time of anxiety attacks, that's one less worry.

Despite the peace, we rock. There is always something a-buzz like surprising structures that change the skyline every now and then. Not to mention bargain haunts as well as designer shops, traditional and quirky buys, mainstream and transitional events plus a global choice of restaurants and bars for a diverse lifestyle.

The muses rule here.

The choice is yours—from 1 to 2 bedroom units for the lofts. Or look into our towers' yin-yang interiors, hardwood floors, ventilated kitchens, floor to ceiling windows and walk-in closets. (Fashionistas, dress yourselves to the nines. In sixes and sevens too.)

Forty-six floors up, you can detox in our skylounge or "The Wind". At the garden enclosed gym, 3 badminton courts, organic spa, children's playground, sun decks, roof gardens and 25-meter swimming pool, you can burn fat or angst. And be phat!

No reason for you to "hit the roof".

Even parking is abundant—5 levels of secured space. With all these going for you, you can live your dreams and never fear that the sky will drop on your head.

Even if you are a Watusi.

Joya Lofts and Tower Units

Only for the chosen few and only a few left.

To inquire, please call 890-6888/ 756-5022 or fax 896-2251 or drop by at the Rockwell Information Center, Rockwell Drive, cor. Estrella St., Makati. Visit our model unit at the Power Plant Mall. With easy payment terms and up to 4 years to pay, available units are running out fast.



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NO. 100, BAYVIEW AVENUE
Taguig, Metro Manila

Memorial Park
Mortuary
Viewing Chapel
Crematory

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B to

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 12, 2004

Manila Memorial Park

Leading the Way

SUCAT, Parañaque - BOLD CROSS, Nolasiches - DASMARINAS, Cavite
Manila, BUTACAN - Ligon, Cebu - M-a-a, Davao
(632) 818 1875 or 818 1876 (632) 818 1874 to 77

DAMASO A. ARCHES

DECEMBER 18, 1932 - SEPTEMBER 4, 2004

A RENAISSANCE MAN
a prime mover in his diverse interests:
city governance, shipping, aquaculture, reforestation,
coastal resource management, land use & development,
civic projects, athletics & health promotion.
A fighter for democracy, a lover of the arts, a true friend,
a devoted family man.

He died with valor in defense of his principles.

HIS CHILDREN GIRLIE, BOYET, DANITA, EM AND GRANDCHILDREN REQUEST HIS RELATIVES,
FRIENDS AND THOSE WHOSE LIVES HE TOUCHED TO PRAY FOR HIS ETERNAL PEACE.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2004

NECROLOGICAL SERVICE, 9 A.M., ROXAS CITY HALL

MASS & LAST RITES, 2 P.M., THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION METROPOLITAN CATHEDRAL
INTERMENT, OUR LADY OF LOURDES MEMORIAL PARK

In Loving Memory of EULALIA M. CASINGAL DOMINGO

of Lingayen, Pangasinan

Peacefully joined her Creator
on September 5, 2004 at the age of 91.

Beloved husband Isabelo (t); children Bing (t) and Andrea Domingo, Wawin and Pat Umaza, Dra. Linda & Jessie Ombac; grandchildren Anna Lissa & Arman, Felipe Jr., Frederick, Anna Marie, Myra Fleur, Magnolia, Michael Angelo, Mona Lissa, Maureen, Christian Matthieu, Jesselyn, Annabelle, Lyndon Jay and great grandchildren Shally, Adrian and relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul

Her remains lie in state at the family residence at 58 Alvear St., West Lingayen, Pangasinan.

Interment will be on September 17, 2004 at the Family Mausoleum, Municipal Cemetery after the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Epiphany of Our Lord Parish, Lingayen, Pangasinan.

Second Anniversary of his entry to Eternal Life LEONARDO Z. TIONGCO

May 7, 1905 - September 14, 2002

His wife, Rosario Manuel Tiongco
children Dr. Ida Tiongco-Sarmiento,
Rene M. Tiongco and Myrna Tiongco Peña
request the reader to offer a prayer for
the peace of his soul.

Prayers will be said at his mausoleum
at the Willow Court,
Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque
at 4:00 P.M. on Sept. 14, 2002.

LEONCIO "PATE" de GUZMAN VICENTE

(Sept. 12, 1951 - August 10, 2004)

A 20 year kidney-transplant patient with cadaver as his kidney donor,
has peacefully joined his Creator at the age of 52.

His grateful and beloved wife, Leticia Liwanag Vicente; loving children
Randy, Mariglo, Veranica & Golda; son-in-law Miguel, grandchildren
Sydney & Gelo, brothers & sisters request the pious readers to pray for the
eternal repose of his soul.

"Daddy, your presence will be deeply missed,
but the memories of your love will live us forever"

Cal. No. 0927-3187248

SUNNY JESUS C. SAGISI

was called home to the Lord on September 8, 2004 at the age of 29.

He shall be missed by his dearest sons SHAUN MICHAEL and STANN JEGO;
father DIEGO, mother TERESITA, sister MARICEL and relatives. We request the
pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Arlington Memorial Chapels, 12 G. Arnette Avenue,
Quezon City.

Interment will be on September 16, 2004 at the Heaven's Gate Memorial Gardens,
Antipolo City.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

ATTY. DESA R. BAYAMANDA

who passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on September 2, 2004

wish to express our heartfelt gratitude
and sincere appreciation to all those who
offered masses and prayers, sent flowers
and messages of sympathy and who in
countless ways, consoled with and comforted
us in our hour of bereavement.



An obituary with a picture
can be a fitting tribute
to your departed loved one.

Always caring...

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

- Copy of Death Certificate
- Any identification document (I.D.)

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CLASSIFIEDS



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
Bldg. #6, San Lazaro Compound,
Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, 1003, Manila, Philippines
Tel. no. (632) 743-8301 Local 1601, Web address: www.doh.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Department of Health (DOH) received funding from the Commission of Information and Communication Technology for the development of the Drug Test operation and Management Information System wherein twenty seven million and six hundred thousand pesos (P27,600,000) has been apportioned as the approved budget of contract (ABC).
2. Major components of the project includes: system and process reengineering, system and software development, establishment of the central database storage and back-up facility, and systems implementation and maintenance.
3. The DOH hereby invites firms with the expertise and at least 3 years experience relevant to the project requirements to apply for eligibility and for shortlisting. Interested bidders may download requirements from the DOH website or inspect the bid documents starting September 5, 2004, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Further information may be obtained from the Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC) Secretariat namely, Ms. Cony Llanera/Ms. Dabie Ribal at 1/F Building 6, DOH, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz Manila. Tel. No. 743-8301 local 1214 or 1601 respectively or send an email to calliberan@co.doh.gov.ph or lacasmile to 711-6081/711-8273.
4. A complete set of bid documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon submission of a letter of intent and upon payment of non-refundable fee of ten thousand pesos (P10,000) pesos. Deadline for submission of a letter of intent and eligibility & shortlisting requirements is on September 24, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. at the COBAC Conference Room.
5. A pre-bid conference will be held on September 29, 2004 at 9:00 am at the COBAC Conference Room. Only shortlisted consultant will be invited to submit a proposal not later than October 25, 2004. The proposal shall be evaluated using a quality-cost based procedure at 60/40 weight in favor of technical. Only technical proposal with 75% rating will be considered for further evaluation. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security valid for ninety (90) days equivalent to 1% of the ABC in the form of certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft confirmed by a reputable local bank or 1.5% if in the form for a bank guarantee confirmed by a reputable local bank.

The Department of Health reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to annul the bidding process and/or reject all bids at any time prior to award of contract without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligation to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds to the Department of Health.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:
(Sgd.) ALEXANDER A. PADILLA
Undersecretary of Health
Chairperson, COBAC

(PD-September 6 & 12, 2004)



NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
South Luzon Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID AD NO. TRANSCO 2004-010A

The National Transmission Corporation, South Luzon O&M Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

DATE OF BIDDING: OCTOBER 8, 2004; 1:30 PM

SCHEDULE	ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER	APPROVED BUDGET
A1	1 SET INFRARED THERMAL SCANNER	PSND-N 04 205	P 7,000,000.00
A2	1 LOT POLE, WOOD CREOSOTED OR CCA-C	PSL-04-096	P 19,434,500.00

NOTE: A Pre-Bidding Conference for Schedules A1 and A2 will be held on September 22, 2004; 1:30 PM at the O&M Conference Room.

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLO&M, San Vicente, Bikan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P500.00 per schedule starting September 14, 2004. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the Conference Room (O&M), Transco-SLO&M, San Vicente, Bikan, Laguna until the specified date and time of bidding above after which said bids will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "R.A. 9184"

The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by OSIS or a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of such action.

TRANSCO-South Luzon's other requirements are posted at the DSM Website: www.procurementservice.net and at the TRANSCO Website: www.transco.ph

(Sgd.) G.R. LISTANO
Chairman-BAC
SLO&M

(PT)-Sept. 12, 2004

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



The public is hereby informed that **EVELYN TABUGA TAN a.k.a. EVELYN UYAMA**, whose picture appears herein, has a standing **WARRANT OF ARREST** in Criminal Case No. 326119 - 23 issued by Metropolitan Trial Court of Makati, Branch 62, for violation of **B.P. 22 (Bouncing Check Law)**.

Her last known address is Lot 5 Blk 16 St. Luke Street, Carmela Subdivision, Talisay City, Negros Occidental.

A reward will be given for any informat on leading to her immediate arrest. Pls. call Atty. Merli ta S. Diga at: 523-8581 to 89

(PD-Sept. 12, 2004)

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS BUT ONCE.



JOYALIFE

Read it every Sunday
with the
Philippine Daily Inquirer.

TransCo qualifying exams passers

SIXTY three engineering graduates from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao have successfully passed the National Transmission Corp (TransCo) qualifying exams for its nationwide Cadetship Training Program. As part of TransCo's commitment to the Filipino youth, the Cadetship Program aims to enable promising new graduates of Electrical and Electronics and Communication Engineering

to gain experience in the field of electrical power transmission. The successful examinees comprise 19 percent of new graduates who applied for the cadetship program. TransCo president Alan T. Ortiz said those who satisfactorily undergo the 6-month training in different TransCo regional centers nationwide will have better chances at career opportunities within the transmission firm. Training of the

present batch is now being conducted until January 26, 2005.

The successful examinees are as follows: John Rey V. Alforque; Cyril P. Alguinda; Emanuel A. Alondra; Richard A. Apidos; Roberto M. Anyas, Jr.; Jeremy Philip T. Arceo; Barry A. Bagae; Rynn Jay Candado; Mari R. Castro; Rizzel M. Castiga; Nonnan Francis P. Del Puerto; Mayrica B. Dimasano; Henry D. Docot, Jr.; Mark Jason E.

Docolero; Jervie D. Dumdam; Reynan N. Esplana; Honorio F. Estravez, Jr.; Orle A. Fabia; Plant Mark T. Garcia; Ronald Vincent G. Garcia; Ramon V. Gervasio; Julius A. Genio; Genaro Glenn R. Guerra; Ernesto C. Hermocillas, Jr.; Rey Alfonso A. Jagonio; Bren M. Lalicani; Jose Rodolfo N. Lio; Joel C. Llanado; Giovanni Pio G. Lubguban; Edgardo V. Madriaga; Dennis R. Magno; Joimerald

Magianong; Argienel T. Masag; Jeremy L. Mata; Arnel M. Mabiki; Milestone R. Manuel; Aaron T. Mendoza; Salman D. Monchar; Leonil L. Monteron; Milenio C. Navarro; Jayson A. Nolasco; Ariel D. Obiero; Jefferson L. Otontan; Nemehias L. Patrocino; Roel B. Ponharoch; Daniel G. Rangelapan; Ralph P. Recamada; Melvin C. Rosende; Joshua K. Salar; Ehrick G. Salabay; Rulando F.

Samariego; Renato A. Sangnang, Jr.; Carlo B. Simpas; Lourdes D. Suello; Rodeo Surigao; Anthony C. Torredo; Jason J. Trasmonte; Joseph F. Valero; Aldino Van N. Valiego; Balven B. Verano; Rudolf Jon R. Vincy; Ruel L. Yabut; and Rhenz O. Zafra.

Those interested in joining the next batch may contact TransCo HR Training Division at tel. no. 981-2139.

**Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission****INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID**

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC), through its Inter-Agency Bids and Awards Committee (IABAC), is inviting bus transport operators to apply for the eligibility and to bid for the supply of the following service:

Contract Package	Contract No.	Contract Duration	Approved Budget for the Contract
1) Rental of one (1) non-air conditioned bus to provide a shuttle service from Kasiglahan Village III, Trece Martines, Cavite to Crossing Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City and vice versa, two (2) trips daily	EPA-RAP-TA01	288 Calendar Days	Php 2,174,400.00
2) Rental of two (2) non-air conditioned buses to provide a shuttle service from Kasiglahan Village IV, Gen. Trias, Cavite to Crossing Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City and vice versa, two (2) trips daily	EPA-RAP-TA02	288 Calendar Days	Php 4,348,800.00

All interested bidders shall secure a complete set of eligibility and bid documents from September 13 to September 17, 2004, at the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, 2/F, MWSS Eng'g. Bldg., Old Bakers, Quezon City, Tel. Nos. (02) 433-3444 / (02) 433-3448 upon submission of a Letter of Intent and payment of a non-refundable fee of Seven Thousand Pesos (Php 7,000.00).

Site Inspection and Pre-Bidding Conference shall be on September 20, 2004. The venue of which shall be announced.

Interested bidders are required to submit at the same time their accomplished eligibility documents in a sealed envelope and technical and financial bid proposals in a separate sealed envelope. The envelope containing the bid proposals shall be kept in a sealed box which shall not be opened until the completion of the eligibility check, and the list of eligible bidders has not been finalized. Only bids of eligible bidders shall be opened on the date of bid opening. The bids of ineligible bidders shall be returned unopened.

The two (2) envelopes containing the accomplished eligibility documents and bid proposals shall be submitted to the PRRC not later than October 4, 2004 at exactly 12:00 noon. Late submissions shall not be accepted. The date of bid opening shall be announced later.

The bidders shall submit together with the eligibility documents a notarized sworn statement stating all their existing shuttle service contracts as of date of bidding, including newly awarded but not yet started contracts with the corresponding contract amount. The bidders shall be evaluated based on their financial capacity, technical capability and experience. The list of other required documents for submission shall be included in the bid documents.

All particulars relative to Eligibility, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract shall be governed by R.A. No. 9184 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). The IABAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason whatsoever, waive minor informality, or accept such bids which shall be the most advantageous to the government. The decision of the IABAC shall be final and binding upon approval of the PRRC Board of Commissioners.

For further information, please contact the BAC Secretariat, c/o Ms. Analita V. Gamay at 926-5234/433-3447

(Sgd.) BINGUE H. S. GUTIERREZ
Executive Director

(PDI - September 12, 2004)

Congratulations AND MORE POWER TO

HON. LOMALA G. SANAYON

NEWLY ELECTED VICE MAYOR OF
NUNUNGAN, LANA DEL NORTE

Coming From:

JOEGOY & VIRGIE AUREA & FAMILY
LILY MALAZARTE & JOE EJARES
FE SANAYON & CHILDREN

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**
**SERVICES OF A COMMON TRAVEL AGENT
FOR THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES**

The Development Support Services Center (DSSC) of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), for and in behalf of the other UN Agencies in the Philippines, would like to invite travel agencies to apply for eligibility and to submit proposals to be the exclusive Travel Agent for the international and domestic travel services needs/requirements of the officers, staff, dependents, consultants and partners of the UN Agencies in the Philippines.

For purposes of accessibility, ease of coordination, and efficiency of delivery of services, the UN System hereby encourages the participation of travel agencies whose offices or branches are currently located within, or within ten (10) minutes walking distance, or anywhere near, the vicinity of the new premises of the UN Agencies of the Philippines by November 2004, which is the 29th, 30th and 31st floors of the Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Building, Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

For interested parties, Bidding Documents (Eligibility Requirements, Instructions to Bidders and Terms of Reference) may be secured personally, upon payment of a non-refundable amount of Philippine Pesos One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) from the following address:

Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA ex Makati Building
108 Amoroso Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier)
Tel. No. (632) 892 06 11 loc. 275
Fax No. (632) 816 40 61 / 893 2610
E-mail address: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

The above-mentioned Bidding Documents will be released to all interested parties strictly from 15 – 22 September 2004. The Bidding Documents shall contain all instructions on the rules, procedures, bid opening dates, other schedules and requirements.

UNDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality therein, accept the bid and award the contract to the most advantageous offer to the UNDP based on UNDP criteria. UNDP assumes no obligation or responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made for this Contract.

(Sgd.) ETHELIND B. CAPUNO
Manager, DSSC

(PDI Sept. 12 & 13, 2004)

INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS

Manila Branch is open to serve your
Classified Ads requirements.

**MANILA BRANCH**

G/F TRINITY BLDG.,
636 T.M. KALAW ST.,
ERMITA, MANILA
TEL. NO.: 527-3342 / 522-4406
Contact Persons: Babes, Eric & Grig

QUEZON POWER PHILIPPINES, LTD.,
A 470 MW COAL FIRED POWER FACILITY
located in Mauban, Quezon, urgently needs a

PEST CONTROL SERVICE PROVIDER

TO BE ACCREDITED, the PEST CONTROL SERVICE PROVIDER
should have the following MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- ⇒ Registered and in good standing with the Securities and Exchange Commission or the Department of Trade and Industry.
- ⇒ In continuous operations for the last five (5) years.
- ⇒ A member of The Pest Control Association of the Philippines or Pest Exterminator Association of the Philippines.
- ⇒ Holder of a valid Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority license
- ⇒ Minimum of two (2) available certified pesticide applicators
- ⇒ Have an existing contract involving at least three (3) industrial clients (manufacturing plants and facilities)
- ⇒ Uses environment friendly products.
- ⇒ Has a good track record and satisfactory performance as attested by at least three (3) clients
- ⇒ Could mobilize a team to survey an industrial area on short notice.

IF YOUR COMPANY MEETS THESE REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE SUBMIT
LETTER OF INTENT, COMPANY PROFILES AND PROOF OF
QUALIFICATION ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 18, 2004 TO:

The Accreditation Board for Quezon Power
c/o Emmanuel M. Florece

BPO INTERNATIONAL, INC.

6758 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Telephone nos. 892-0481 to 94 (local 8801), 0918-3876853

Fax No. 325-2764

CALL FOR EXHIBITORS! SIGN-UP NOW!



5th HEALTH & ORGANIC SHOW 2004

November 05-07, 2004

Hall 3, 5th Floor, SM Megatrade Hall
Edsa, Mandaluyong City, Philippines

"Your Health, Your Wealth"



uncontrollable, and SARS endangering our lives...this is what each and every Filipino craves for and gives highest priority to achieve.

Promote healthy lifestyle and expand your market in this annual health show



with a unique marketing platform.

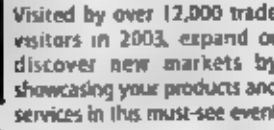
A perfect launching venue for health and wellness products and services

Introduce your products and services during the 3-day information-packed program at the Event Activity Area. Get trade opportunities, industry trends, and market developments...

A healthy body, a well-balanced lifestyle, clean air and environment inside and outside our home. In this highly urbanized community that we live in where pollution is almost uncontrollable, and SARS endangering our lives...this is what each and every Filipino craves for and gives highest priority to achieve.



Visited by over 12,000 trade visitors in 2003, expand or discover new markets by showcasing your products and services in this must-see event



Introduce your products and services during the 3-day information-packed program at the Event Activity Area. Get trade opportunities, industry trends, and market developments...

What's on Exhibit

- Natural/Herbal/Organic Food Products
- BFAD/DOH Approved Medicines, Consumer Health Care
- Wellness/Lifestyle Products
- Exercise/Fitness and Healthy Living
- Cosmetics, Skin, Hair, and Personal Care Products
- IIMQ, Medical Insurance, Hospitals, & Medical Clinic
- Medical/Sports Equipment & Hardware
- Alternative Medicine
- Alternative Medicine Practices

Highlights of Activities

- A showcase of different health, wellness, & beauty products by over 60 companies.
- Free lectures by medical/health experts
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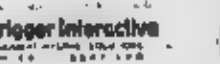
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Sunday BIZ

Saving P20 a day creates loan system for Abra folk



The once deep and quiet Abra river is now silted and greatly affected by the large-scale mining in Benguet.
LEONCIO G. SALVIR Jr.

By Maurice Malanes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Second of two parts

DAGUIOMAN, Abra—Like thousands of Filipino women, Milagros Bag-ayan of this upland town had dreamed, after finishing high school, of a life better than that of her farmer parents.

Milagros joined the exodus of other Filipino women who worked in Hong Kong as a domestic helper.

That was 1983 and she was 23. She first tried a two-year contract and planned to return home to start a business after saving enough capital.

But her money all went to loan payments.

She continued to work in Hong Kong until 1994.

But she was not able to save enough because she had to pay for loans she used for her placement and other fees.

She continued to work in the former British colony until 1994, earning P15,000 a month.

The Tinggian lady finally returned home when she decided to get married and raise her own children, rather than take care of the children of some middle-class family in Hong Kong.

She wanted to go into a small business but could not. Representatives of the Central Cordillera Agricultural Program or Cecap came to Daguioman in 1997 to talk about a Grameen-inspired small rural financing system, through the organization of small savings and loans groups or SLGs.

A joint program of the European Union and the Department of Agriculture, Cecap, particularly its second phase, began in 1996 and ended last July.

Milagros joined the training on organizing an SLG.

Now 44, she is part of a seven-member all-women SLG she helped put up in 1998.

The SLG started with P20-weekly savings from each member, who could borrow at least P500 after saving for three months.

To raise money for their savings and loans, Milagros and the other members saved and paid their loans in kind. They would bring their avocados, pomelos or grapefruits, papayas, bananas, string beans and other crops to their weekly meetings.

Members who had cash would buy the products so they could save the required P20 each week. Some could also pay their loan amortization in kind.

Creating business

From what they loaned from their SLG, Milagros and two other members created small businesses of their own. As members of the same SLG, Milagros and her colleagues decided which business to go into so they would not compete with each other.

Milagros concentrated on trading indigenous products like homemade vinegar and wine, honey, tobacco, bamboo crafts, tiger-grass brooms and pine resin.

From her store, she nets P100 to P150 daily, which, she says, was not bad in a rural setting. Milagros' two other colleagues traded different goods, mostly groceries, which they bought wholesale from the provincial capital of Benguet.

She and her colleagues also embarked on a lending business targeting town mates outside their SLG.

They began their lending business when their savings reached P53,000. They started lending a maximum of P5,000 to outsiders with a collateral, usually a rice field.

The maximum loan was soon raised to P10,000 and the usual collateral was a rice field that could produce 100 kilograms of milled rice in one cropping. With a 5 percent monthly interest, the loan was payable in six months. "By God's grace, our store and lending businesses continue to grow," says Milagros.

Through the SLG and the other businesses it helped create, Milagros said she did not have to loan money when she delivered her two babies through caesarian section.

"I also won't have to worry about their (her children's) school expenses," she says.

From nurse to entrepreneur

For many young Filipinos, a nursing course is a passport to working abroad.

This was what prompted Marlene Pengosro of the upland town of Besao, Mt. Province, to pursue a nursing course at Lyceum College in Dagupan City.

But after graduating in 1991, nursing jobs here and abroad were hard to come by for Marlene.

In 1995, she borrowed money and applied as a domestic in Taiwan.

After a three-year contract in Taiwan, she returned to Besao and invested her savings in an eatery with a sing-along videoke bar. The business flopped.

Marlene was mulling setting up another business when Cecap personnel came to Besao in 2001 to preach about micro-finance by organizing savings SLGs.

Inspired by the Cecap staff's story about how village women in Bangladesh established their Grameen or village-based banks, Marlene was convinced and helped form and became a member of an SLG, the basic unit of village-based banking.

"If Bangladesh women succeeded (in their Grameen), I was certain we also could," she says.

As one of a five-member SLG, Marlene would save P5 a day to complete the P25 weekly savings for the SLG.

As was the policy, she availed of a P300 loan at 2 percent monthly interest only after continuously saving for three months.

With the loan, she set up a small business of selling fish balls, balut and kutsinta or rice cakes.

Doing this business for two years, she would net P50 to P75 daily, which augmented her small ukay-ukay or second-hand clothes business.

Marlene's fellow members also opened up their own businesses.

Her colleague, Patricia Genita, set up an

SAVING B6

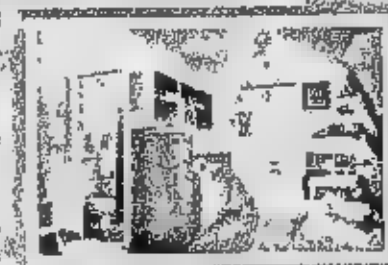
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Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Coast is not clear—yet

By Linda B. Bolido

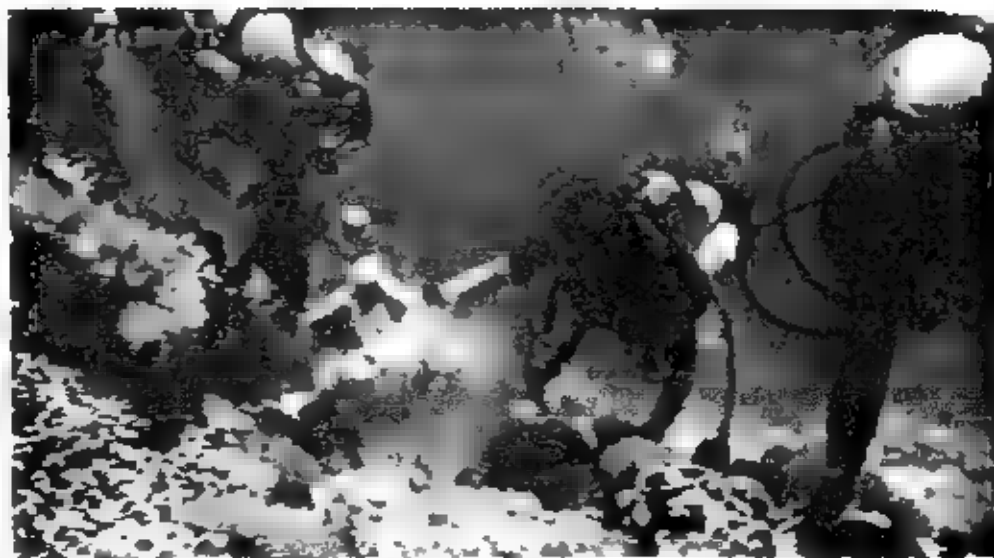
LAST year, more than 140,000 Filipino volunteers covered almost 4,000 miles of coastal and underwater areas and collected close to two million pounds of

garbage and debris.

The Philippines' garbage haul was second only to the United States' 3,783,242 pounds, but it also had the next largest number of volunteers and area of coverage after the US' 170,000 people spread over 9,257 miles.

In fact, in its 2003 International Coastal

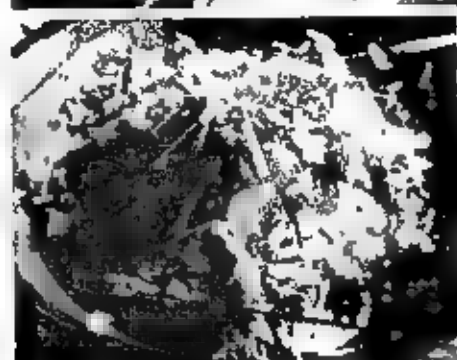
COAST/C2



DIVERS hauled debris from underwater in Anilao, Batangas, two years ago.

On Sept. 18, thousands of Filipino volunteers will again dive into the water and comb miles of shore to collect garbage

IN THIS ISSUE



EIGHT pages of mouth-watering food talk /D1



FAMILY penthouse, merrymaking spot /F1

SEA Princess sprints to Athens

/G1



LOVE at second sight

/H1



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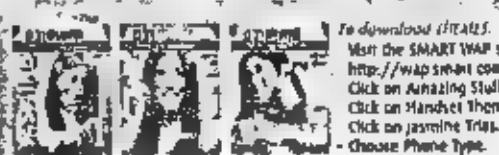
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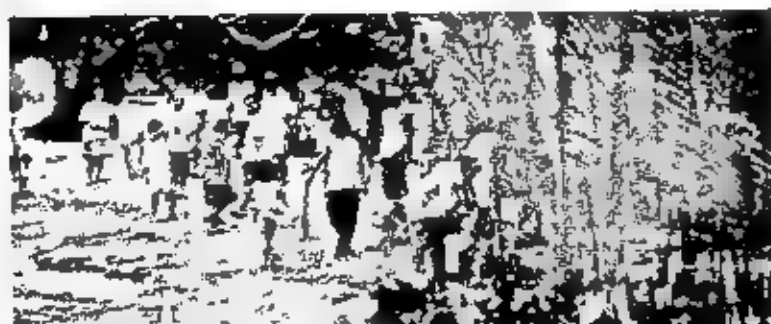
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Coast is not clear—yet



COLLECTED trash is sorted out into recyclables and non-recyclables.



CHILDREN and adults work together to clean a palm-filled stretch of coast.



CEBU City actively participated in ICC 2002.

From page C1

Cleanup report, The Ocean Conservancy, which spearheads the annual event, made special mention of the increase in Filipino volunteers from 89,000 in 2002 to 140,628.

Hopeful signs

Last year's figures also offered other hopeful signs for the Philippines, aside from the more than 50-percent increase in the number of volunteers.

In absolute terms, the 1,972,027.5 pounds of garbage collected by volunteers last year represented an increase of 888,238 pounds or 82 percent over the 2002 figure of 1,083,789 pounds. But the 2003 total haul from 3,977.9 miles of shores and underwater meant an average of 496 pounds of trash per mile. In 2002, with 1,333 miles covered, the average pounds-per-mile figure was about 813.

Despite this heartening development, however, the problem of trash disposal into the sea, rivers and other waterways remains serious. Floods after heavy rains due to poor drainage are the most obvious consequence, but trash in water bodies means more than just clogged waterways. It can also mean health risks for animals—both on land and in the water—and humans.

Entangled

In 2003, volunteers discovered 237 entangled animals worldwide, with fishing lines being the main culprit. Fishing nets were the next "most dangerous" item, catching over 18 percent of entangled animals. Plastic bags, rope and balloons represent durable threats to aquatic wildlife, injuring and sometimes even killing them.

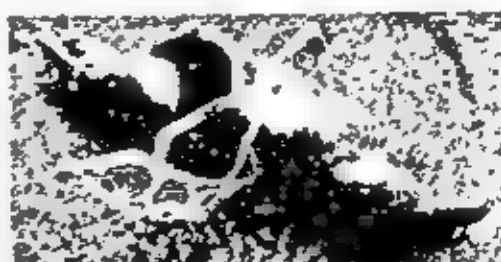
Fish-eating birds that mistake glittery items, like plastic, for food, are also at risk. In several instances, they get their necks caught



STUDENTS do their share by cleaning up a riverside.



VOLUNTEERS with their haul of beach debris from the Puerto Princessa Port in ICC 2002



A BIRD died from getting entangled in a six-pack plastic holder.

in plastic canned beverage six-pack holders. Turtles have died from eating plastic bags, cigarette butts and other items carelessly thrown into the water by humans.

Humans also at risk

People, too, who are the ones primarily responsible for making water bodies unsafe, are not totally exempt from the harmful effects of the mess they make. In its report, The Ocean Conservancy pointed out:

"Marine debris is harmful to humans, too. In addition to the obvious dangers of syringes, broken glass and similar debris, there are other unseen threats as well. Medical and personal hygiene debris often enter the waste stream through sewer systems, which can indicate the presence of invisible pollution and pathogens. Bacteria can sicken people exposed to the contaminated water."

In the US, the report said, there were 12,184 beach closings and advisories due to unsafe water in 2002.

Fortunately, the message that water bodies are not convenient trash receptacles is beginning to sink in. Not only is the number of volunteers for the International Coastal Cleanup increasing, but even business is getting into the act.

In the Philippines, for instance, The Ocean Conservancy has put the SM Supermalls, JRS Express, Caltex-Philis, Unilever, Samsung, Philips, General Electric, American Home, WG&A Superferry and Nestle in the "honor roll of donors."

Reduce garbage

Of course, rather than give volunteers something to collect every year, the best thing is for people to avoid mindlessly throwing garbage into waterways. The Environment Protection Agency suggests, among others:

- Reduce packaging by buying in bulk or concentrated products when possible.
- Reduce toxicity, or learn how to. Recycle batteries or use those with reduced mercury.
- Select reusable products. Sturdy, washable utensils, tableware, cloth napkins and dishcloths can be used many times.
- Use durable products. Choose furniture, sports equipment, toys and tools that will stand the test of time.
- Reuse products like newspapers, boxes, shipping "peanuts" and bubble wrap.
- Recycle automotive products by taking car batteries and motor oil to participating recycling centers.
- Buy products—bottles, cans, cereal boxes, containers and cartons—made from recycled material.
- Compost or learn how. Food scraps and yard waste can become natural soil conditioners.

This year's International Coastal Cleanup is scheduled for Sept. 18. For more information, visit The Ocean Conservancy website, www.oceanconservancy.org or the International Marine Alliance-Philippines, www.marine.org, or e-mail IMAP: iccc@marine.org or call 6387146 or fax 6387119.

A relaxed evening with young jazz ambassadors

THE UNITED States Embassy was the scene of a relaxed and congenial evening that featured the Chicago Jazz Quartet (one of eight ensembles selected as US jazz ambassadors), composed of young, talented musicians Benjamin Lewis on keys, Lorin Cohen on bass, Michael Raynor on drums and Matt Lewis on trumpet and lead vocals.

Lewis gave a wonderful rendition of Louis Armstrong's "It's a Wonderful World" for the finale that had the audience clapping, stomping and asking for more. There were great renditions of "Nature Boy" and "Stompin' at the Savoy." By the way, did you know—I didn't—that Charlie Chaplin wrote the melody of "Smile"?

Among the guests were Marietta Santos and Tonette Martel; Beth Day Romulo, who is all set for her annual trip to NY and to attend the wedding of the daughter of former US Ambassador Tom Hubbard and the very popular Joan in D.C., together with Sheila Platt; Joan Orendan and Dee Zobel; Toni Parsons, whose floral arrangements are so outstanding; Justice Undersecretary Dong Teehankee; Chito and Anna Sobrepesca, ready for the first national competition for the Metrobank Art and Design Excellence (formerly Young Painter's Annual); my favorite critic, Baby Orosa (because she's always kind; another friend, Javier, calls her the Mother Teresa of Philippine journalism); Babe Romualdez (no, I didn't ask about THAT case); Jomari Chan and his son Michael; Benedict Meyssan and Franck Hebert from the French Embassy, who's on vacation and is intent on discovering the Philippines.

Manila club isn't in Manila

It's becoming fashionable to hold parties at the Manila Jockey Club that is no longer in Manila. The former San Lazaro Racetrack now sits on 77 hectares of land in Carmona, Cavite.

Now why am I telling you this? Well, it was the venue for a unique and memorable *despedida-merienda* for the popular German ambassador and wife, Herbert and Micheline Jess, hosted by Dean Vince Carlos of the Consular Corps of the Phils.

Two special races with top prizes were held: the Consular Cup and the Ambassador's Cup. Dean Carlos, Monaco Consul Fortune Ledesma, Singapore Consul Adrian Chan and US Consul Anne Coleman presented tro-



THE CHICAGO Jazz Quartet: Benjamin Lewis on keys, Lorin Cohen on bass, Michael Raynor on drums and Matt Lewis on the trumpet and lead vocals



THE ZITTAS (above) and Michael Chan and his dad, Jose Mari Chan (below)



phies to owners, trainers and jockeys of winning horses in the Consular Cup. Later, Ambassadors Jan de Kok of the European Union, Munir-uz Zaman of Bangladesh and Christian Tanghe of Belgium joined the Jesses in presenting the Ambassador's Cup trophies.

Annual tea

The Catholic Women's Club held its annual tea at the Manila Polo Club with a wonderful presentation of numbers from "My Fair Lady." The inimitable Chingoy Alonso sang "On the Street where You Live," Leo Martinez did "Get Me to the Church on Time" and the lovely Myrna Borromeo played the unforgettable Eliza.

The ladies, led by president Alice Briones, were decked out in Belle Epoque costumes and looked properly elegant, hats and all. You will be happy to know that the occasion was graced by none other than Makati's former mayor and now first lady again, Dr. Eleuta Binay, and the famous Governor Chavit and Che Singson.

RP-Singapore artists

In celebration of Philippine-Singapore relations, Singapore Ambassador Lim Kheng Hui, one of our most impressive young Asian ambassadors, together with The Podium and Finale Art File, presented "Display," an exhibit of recent works of six budding artists (born between 1976 and 1978) from the Philippines and Singapore. The accomplished artists belong to the generation nurtured by computers and a global world. Artists Gary-Ross Pastrana, Claire Lim Sheau Shih, Ho Tzu Nyen, MM Yu, Lim Shing Ee, and Billy Atienza recollect "the shards of the global, its derris, its vestiges that may be evidence of breakdown or the index of the bustling diversity of markets and labor forces."

Lunch for ambassador

The Inquirer hosted a lunch recently for Chinese Ambassador Wu Hongbo. Present were Inquirer chair Marixi R. Prieto and president Sandy Romualdez, as well as Niu Jitao, DCM Xiao Qian and Jao Jia of the Chinese embassy; Inquirer publisher Isagani Yambot; Charlie Rufino; Francis Chua, vice president of the Chinese Federation and Betty Chua.



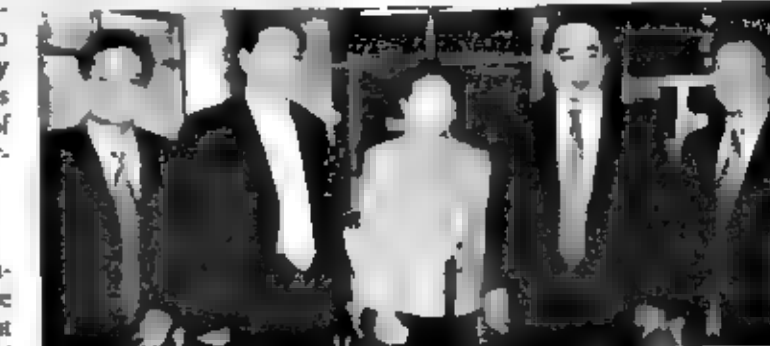
SEATED with Ambassador Ricciardone are Mr. Tomas Zita, president and chairman of the Shangri-La Plaza, and his wife Katherine.



SEATED: Mme. Mariana Hubbard, Mme. Gul Tangha, Mme. Sylvia Schuff and Mme. Reikawa; Standing: Swedish Ambassador Annika Markovic, Mme. Micheline Jess, Evie Costa



SIN Wai Mong, SVP, Keppel Philippines Properties; Marcos Punsalan, DFA officer, Asian and Pacific Affairs; Haji Haris Bin Haji Tuah, charge d'affaires, Brunel Embassy



THE Inquirer recently hosted a lunch for Chinese ambassador Wu Hongbo (second from right), here with Inquirer board chair Marixi Prieto, board member Charlie Rufino (far right) and other members of the Chinese delegation.



CELINE Bautista, Dra. Binay, Carmen Gaspar, Consuelo Preysler, Mercedes Gonzalez, Melody Cojuangco and Alice Briones



RHODA M. Balilia wears a brown long-sleeved top and white A-line skirt by Mango.



BERNADETTE Villa is in a white long-sleeved top and red pants by Mango.



DIMPLES Reyes Rara wears a plain black tee and khaki coat by Mango.

Beauty, brains and bravado

THE LATEST issue of Me magazine features four brave young women lawyers who share helpful legal advice to readers.

Recent bar passer Rhoda M. Balilia, who specializes in tax and customs services, advises women to arm themselves with proper tax know-how, especially when it comes to work-related tax issues.

Corporate law and litigation lawyer Gaudy Descallar, a private practicing lawyer for 14 years,

teaches smart business moves.

Intellectual property lawyer Dimples Reyes Rara talks about protecting one's goods and properties, while Office of the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court lawyer Bernadette Villa shares her experience implementing a gender and development plan in government.

Me magazine is now available in all leading bookstores and newsstands nationwide. Call 6312859.

Foreign experts to discuss ADHD

THE ADHD Society of the Phils. will hold its second national conference on "ADHD: Focusing on Medical and Educational Issues," Oct. 21-23, at The Tent, Plaza Car Park, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati City.

The conference highlights this year's observance of National Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Week Oct. 17-23.

Main speakers are Dr. Harlan Gephart, former medical director of the Center for Attentional Deficit Disorders in Redmond, Washington; and Sandra Reis, award-winning educator, author and lecturer with vast experience in the education of students with ADHD.

Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) affects 3-4 percent of all children. It is characterized by persistently high levels of inattentive, hyperactive and impulsive behavior usually inconsistent with the level of development of a child.

While ADHD is a very common behavioral problem among children, it is often left undiagnosed or, worse, misunderstood.

Gephart says, "Virtually all children with ADHD suffer from low self-esteem and, if we let an ADHD child go untreated, we may well be handing that child a life sentence of academic and social failure."

Parents, educators and medical professionals are invited to attend.

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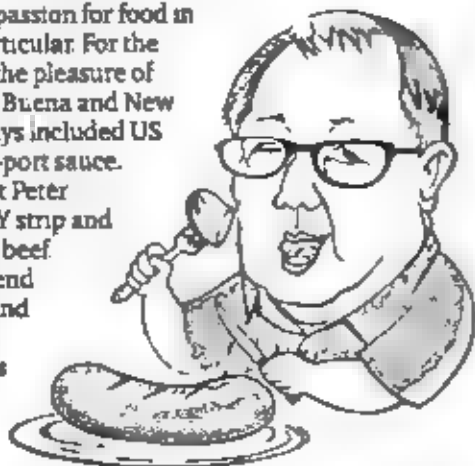
SUNDAY LIFESTYLE

FOOD TALK



I'VE been cooking since I was 20. When dorm food just didn't cut it anymore, I bought my first cookbook and haven't stopped cooking since. On these pages, you will find what interests me as a chef, which, in a nutshell, is to make people happy through food. I've asked a few of my culinary colleagues and foodie friends to help me put this special section together. I hope you find as much pleasure in reading these pages as we had in preparing them.

Greg Garcia and I share a passion for food in general, and for beef in particular. For the past five years, I have had the pleasure of cooking his family's Noche Buena and New Year's Eve fare, which always included US Prime Rib with mushroom-port sauce. We can talk for hours about Peter Luger's 60-day dry-aged NY strip and agree that it's all about the beef. On page D5, our foodie friend picks the flavors from around the world that are, as the French Michelin guide puts it, *ça vaut le voyage*, or worth the trip.



I love cooking for Chary Mercado and her husband, Lito. Like me, they both enjoy a hearty fare. We explored the Salcedo Village market one fine morning and discovered our farmers' harvests, the best P24 pork barbecue, unusual finds such as zucchini flowers and sugar beets, plus Singaporean hawker food—all right in our own neighborhood! So, come on and let's explore a happy little market with Chary on page D2.

Last year, Fernando Aracama, chef/owner of Uva restaurant, Cyrille Soenen, executive chef of the Hotel InterContinental Manila, and I spent a good two weeks eating our way through Paris. Unfortunately, I couldn't join them this year, but I'm happy that we get to vicariously eat with them through Fernando's *kuwentos* of their fabulous meals and times in France. Read about their fabulously filling summer of 2004 on page E2.



Glamour has always been the least of a chef's worries, but chef Humphrey Navarro is changing all that. On page D3, we feature his version of kitchen dressing.

Read about my favorite kitchen gadgets, books I recommend for every serious foodie, and the culinary hits and misses of Reggie Aspiras, Señor Anastacio Alba, Rolando Laudico, and Brothers Burger's Quito Jose in the regular Thursday Food section.

Happy cooking and great eating!

—J. Gamboa

About the guest editor

J. GAMBOA is the boyish-looking chef behind the indestructible Milky Way and the path-breaking Cirkulo. With his very supportive sister, Malu Gamboa, he has updated Milky Way's legendary Pinoy staples and spun Cirkulo's Mediterranean Spanish magic. Recently, he attended an intensive culinary course in Singapore by the famous Alain Ducasse school, and during his break, learned how to cook Hainanese chicken (it's now Milky Way Café's newest offering). He's sad that Filipino cuisine hasn't yet received the respect it deserves. But with great chefs like him, the situation may change soon.



The best way to write about food is to prepare it, eat it with friends and talk about it. And that's exactly what my crew and I did at the Batangas hideaway of Junie Rodriguez's family. If you don't believe me, check out page D4, where we've thrown in a bonus recipe for Junie's chicken salad.



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Regine Velasquez
and Akalalas

SEPT 19
SUNDAY
5:00 PM

Plolo Pascual
and Jay-R





A BOWL of lechon, cooked at the table, gets the welcome off to a fiery start.

INENG'S BBQ assembly line. Over 2,000 sticks sold every Saturday.



Weekend market



Text by Chary Mercado
Photos by J. Gamboa

ON ANY given weekday, Salcedo Village is a beehive of cosmopolitan activity. But come the weekend, the people disappear, the streets are emptied, the noise level drops to zero and Salcedo takes on the air of a ghost town.

While this may give Salcedo Village residents some much needed peace and quiet, it offers very little in fostering community spirit or building wholesome recreation for the families in the neighborhood. Some concerned residents of the village decided to do something about that and so revived the organic market that used to be popular in the Greenbelt of old.

The Salcedo Weekend Market started last May as a humble affair of 30 booths clumped together in the parking lot of the Salcedo Village park (cum parking lot). Support from the residents and those of nearby villages was instantaneous, however, and the vendors eagerly signed on to make it a weekly venture.

Now, a scant two months later, the market has blossomed into a 90-table affair that has attracted vendors from all over town. True to

the market's theme, however, there are no dry goods on sale here, to keep it from degenerating into a tiangge. Instead, you have a rather rustic setup where tables are casually lined up under white tents and the goods are displayed in sacks, bins or baskets, in a manner you would expect from a farmgate stand.

Come take a look at what's for sale. Upon entering the park (the main entrance is on Tordesillas Street, fronting Salcedo Two and Three), you are greeted by a bevy of tropical plants and bonsais.

Scattered elsewhere in the market are booths selling cut fresh flowers—the ubiquitous Malaysian mums, roses and anthuriums. At the booth of Myra Santiago, I was thrilled to see some more unusual varieties—orange and pink snapdragons, hydrangeas and violet tipped white carnations. As an added service, Myra even arranges the blooms with greens for those buyers who don't trust their Martha Stewart instincts; all they have to do is bring the vase.

Runaway BBQ

The great majority of the booths at the market are devoted to food, and the runaway crowd favorite is Ineng's BBQ. Just look for the long line of people standing in a cloud of smoke. Inside the cloud, you will find 10 or so people dressed in red, furiously fanning the flames on the best pork BBQ I have had the

pleasure of tasting. I have been eating this BBQ ever since I discovered it in The Fort bazaar almost a year ago, and have found it to be a paragon of consistency. It baffles the mind how they do it, but each piece is exactly the same size as every other, and completely devoid of fat, until you reach the very end where the last crispy chunk is all fat. If you are on a diet, just skip this last bit. But if you are a true-blooded Pinoy, well—this is the mother lode!

The folk at Ineng's tell me they go through over 2,000 sticks just for that weekend market alone (which closes at 2 p.m.).

The market is replete with other choices in the protein department. For dramatic flair, credit goes to the smoked chicken ham table. Each bird (previously boiled in wine, beer, herbs and pako) is rubbed generously with salt and sugar and then flame-broiled with a blow torch. Seeing the pale bird caramelized right before your eyes is enough to get you salivating.

For family reunions or meriendas, I recommend the chicken ham for stuffing inside some of the cuapao bread sold on the other side of the market. While you are at the cuapao booth, make sure to try the "famous bacon" which they cook on an electric pan at the side. The bacon is healthier than most (which may not be saying a lot) because it has no salt, no nitrites and is all natural.

Salcedo Village becomes a 'talipapa' at the end of the week, would you believe?

Another notable roast is Joy's smoked ham, which she proudly advertises as being "Swiss style." She says this means the ham is sweet, as opposed to Chinese ham, which is salty. While I do agree with her that her ham is indeed sweet (allowing me to forego the accompanying honey sauce), I believe the best thing about her ham is that it is tender, juicy and generously laced with fat.

For those watching their cholesterol levels, the market has a wide array of organic and native vegetables, brown rice and whole grain bread and frozen seafood.

In the greens department, the Herbana farms table has truly "hard to find" ingredients such as French beans, sorrel, fresh curry leaves and even edible flowers. I also saw something called Holy Basil, which was named as such because it originally grew at the side of a temple in India. Gill Carandang, the proprietor, dispenses advice on the best way to cook with his herbs so as to unlock all the flavors. He can also be hired as a consultant for those hoping to grow their own little herb gardens.

Salad corner

For serious salad eaters, Patty Mina's booth at the far end is another destination. She has an array of salad dressings that are not your usual supermarket fare, such as sesame seed and mango dressing, poppy seed dressing and strawberry vinaigrette. In the fresh fruit department, some of the more unusual offerings that I noted were white peaches, dark red cherries from the United States, longans and the ever-popular mangoes from Guimaras.

Like all palengke, the Salcedo Weekend Market has lots of native delicacies on sale. At least an hour to shop in the market so that you can sample most of the native treats on sale.

Two items that are top of mind here are the Best Maja Blanca (labeled as such) and Popular Puto (also labeled as such). On a rainy day, puto can be the ultimate comfort food, and the little puto bails sold at the Popular table are a great innovation, since they are already bite size.

Another crowd favorite is a light green suman called budbud kabog from Dumaguete, which is tasty enough eaten plain, as it is steeped in coconut milk.

You must come early to catch the puto, budbud and ensaymada, because they are sold out by 10 a.m.

Restaurateur Marivic Diaz-Lam, who frequents the market as it is literally across the street from her, swears by the DVF table. Her picks at this table are the carabao cheese (which she says keeps for three weeks!) pastillas de leche, the Vigan longganisa and the Forest Wonder green honey from Palawan. This green-colored honey is infused with chlorophyll by the Turog bees of Palawan and is said to aid in detoxification and strengthening immunity.

Another table with diverse and interesting fare is the one manned by the Knights of

WEEKEND D3





Chef couture

Clothes do not a kitchen whiz make, but they definitely can make you want to kiss the cook

CHEF Humphrey Navarro, formerly of the Mandarin Hotel, and now with the International School for Culinary Arts and Hotel Management (IS-CHM) also keeps chefs properly and fashionably attired with his Chef Republic Workwear line.

Chef's jackets come in cutting edge styles.

Check out "Kill Bill" in primary yellow, Zebra Stripes and of course, the Classic White. Made of US cotton twill, prices start at P1,200.

Navarro's entire collection is on display at ISCHM 4/F FBR Building, Katipunan Avenue, QC. Call 5354152.

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STYLING: LEICA CARPO AND STACY RODRIGUEZ
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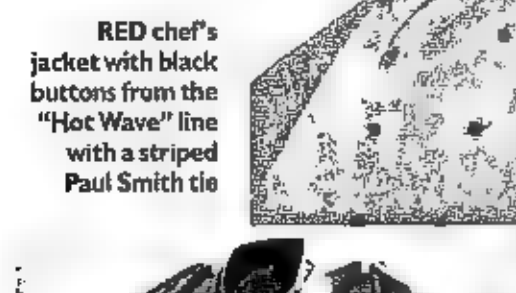


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collar,
accessorized with
a Paul Smith red
polka tie



RED chef's
jacket with black
buttons from the
"Hot Wave" line
with a striped
Paul Smith tie



NAVY Chef's
Jacket with white
buttons and yellow
piping from the
"Hot Wave" line,
with a Paul Smith
floral tie



THE CLASSIC
white with a
striped Paul
Smith tie

Weekend market

From page D2

Blessed Sacrament. Aside from *balo-balo* (fermented rice with shrimp) and *ensaymada*, the other interesting bits are tubs of melted native chocolate and a spread made of carabao milk—a sort of spreadable form of *pastillas*!

In the dairy department, another must see is the Saint Mary's table. I discovered their yogurt and cottage cheese in the weekend market at the Fort, and I consider their products a godsend. Their yogurts come in various flavors such as pineapple, mango and blueberry, and can keep for much longer than commercial yogurts. Their carabao cheese is also great eaten fresh or heated with a little olive oil and rosemary.

Chinese fresh *lumpia*—the kind with the ground peanuts and crispy noodles inside—are sold by two booths on either end of the market. The main difference between the two is the *lumpia* nearer the Tordesillas Street side has cilantro and is heavy on the garlic. With a stick

of BBQ on the side, this is a meal in itself for the shoppers who stay through lunch.

On the Leviste side of the market, there are booths devoted to Korean sushi, Vietnamese noodles and spring rolls and various Singaporean and Malaysian delicacies. Singaporean expats actually man their booth and say they "do it for fun" and in order to meet more of their co-patriots. The noteworthy delicacies here are steaming bowls of *laksa* on noodles and a rectangular cake that looks like a stack of very thin pancakes.

One portion of the market that seems to attract the most people is the eating area. More and more, I notice that the moms and wives that used to frequent the market are now being joined by their husbands and children, making this a family affair.

So if you are looking for some new dish to excite your taste buds, or just a new place to take the family on laid-back Saturday mornings, the Salcedo Weekend Market beckons.

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- One (1) valid code sent = One (1) raffle entry. Each valid code can be sent only once per registered participant.

MILO Event Draw Prizes (10 draws)
MILO jackets (10 winners)
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Grand Draw Prizes
P 250,000 cash
P 500,000 cash
P 1,000,000 cash

The 20% prize tax for Grand Prize winners will be shouldered by Nestlé Philippines, Inc.

RULES:

- Promo period is June 15 to November 11, 2004.
- A minimum of one (1) raffle entry is required to be eligible for the P 250,000 Grand Prize. A minimum of two (2) raffle entries is required to be eligible for the P 500,000 Grand Prize. A minimum of four (4) raffle entries is required for the P 1,000,000 Grand Prize.

- The MILO Event Draws will be held on July 23, July 30, August 6, August 13, August 20, August 27, September 3, September 10, September 17, and September 24, 2004. Entries sent from 12:00 AM to 11:59 PM of the covered period will be qualified for the MILO Event draw.

MILO Event Period	Date	Period Covered
1	Jul 23	Jul 15-Jul 22
2	Jul 30	Jul 23-Jul 29
3	Aug 6	Jul 30-Aug 5
4	Aug 13	Aug 6-Aug 12
5	Aug 20	Aug 13-Aug 19
6	Aug 27	Aug 20-Aug 26
7	Sep 3	Aug 27-Sep 2
8	Sep 10	Sep 3-Sep 9
9	Sep 17	Sep 10-Sep 16
10	Sep 24	Sep 17-Sep 23

- For MILO Event Draw, there will be 10 winners of MILO jackets and 3 winners of Adika products. MILO Event winners will be announced during the MILO Events to be held two days after the draw.

- MILO Event Draw winners will still qualify for the Grand Draw.

- Grand Draw is on November 12, 2004. All entries sent from 12:00 AM of June 15 to 11:59 PM of November 11, 2004 will qualify for the Grand Draw.

- During the Grand Draw, a winner can win only once. If his/her name gets drawn twice, he/she will get the prize with the higher value.

- The electronic draw will be held at Information Gateway, Inc. at Unit 1401, West Tower, Telcel Bldg., Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City in the presence of a BFAD representative.

- All winners will be verified by the telecommunications company for valid charged/billed transactions. Only registered participants with properly billed transactions can win.

- Winners will be informed through a call to their mobile phones and via registered mail.

- Grand Prize winners can claim their prizes from Nestlé Philippines, Inc., Nestlé Center, 31 Plaza Drive, Rockwell Center, Makati City. Apart from 2 valid IDs with photo and signature, and the active cellphone with the winning SIM card, they should present the following:

P 250,000 winner
one MILO sticker (attached to MILO label) with valid code tested-in (winning code included)

P 500,000 winner
two MILO stickers (attached to MILO labels) with valid codes tested-in (winning code included)

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four MILO stickers (attached to MILO labels) with valid codes tested-in (winning code included)

MILO 1K labels should be clean and fully intact. The codes should correspond to the codes sent to Information Gateway or they will be considered invalid.

- A winner may send a representative to claim the prize provided the representative brings an authorization letter from the winner, the representative's valid ID with photo and signature, and all the requirements stated in the preceding section.

In cooperation with:



- MILO Event Draw winners may claim their prizes at any of the 28th National MILO Marathon events. They should present the active cellphone with the winning SIM card, MILO 1K label, and the sticker with the winning code, plus two valid IDs with photo and signature. If they cannot come to a MILO Event, they may claim their prize at designated Nestlé offices (as indicated in the registered mail notification).

- Winners need to sign an acknowledgment receipt/waiver to be provided by Nestlé before they get their prize.

- Prizes must be claimed within 60 days after notification. Otherwise, they will be forfeited with prior BFAD approval.

- All employees of Nestlé Philippines, Inc., Globe Telecom, Innowe Communications, Publicis Manila, Smart Communications, Pilas, Information Gateway, packaging suppliers, advertising and promotion agencies, and relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity and affinity are automatically disqualified from the promo.

- Promo is available nationwide.



Visit www.milo.com.ph or text MILO to 2929.

Per DCH-BFAD Permit No. 0000 series of 2004.

VIEW from the top.
Ginger Hill's garden

Paradise found

(FROM TOP) Zucchini flowers from the Saicedo Market battered, fried and topped with parmesan; portobello and shimeji mushrooms, zucchini flowers, arugula, roasted asparagus, zucchini and grape tomatoes from the oven



TABLE FOR 10 whets the appetite with arrangements of bamboo, ruby fountain grass and frangipani from the garden, in glass vases from Dimondora and Mix. Stone bowl at center, made of lava, is flanked by stone lanterns from Bali. Crushed bamboo place trays are Junie's design. Cutlery from Bangkok, linens from SPM

A beach is the perfect setting for a relaxing feast

Text and photos by J. Gamboa

JUNIE Rodriguez's Batangas home was the perfect setting for a laidback afternoon by the beach. A wood-burning brick oven was fired up for cooking homemade pizzas. Our hungry crew also enjoyed the Asian salads and oven-baked vegetables.

June's table for 10 was dressed, using treasures from his travels and flowers from his garden. Food talk was the order of the day, with the only acceptable interruption being a cool dip or an afternoon siesta.

At the end of the day, we came away with an unbelievable lightness of being, plus this recipe to share with our readers.

Junie's Mandarin Chicken Salad with Hoisin Vinaigrette

Mixed greens, cut to thin strips
Coarsely chopped fresh cilantro sprigs
Chopped green onions
Celery, sliced into little matchsticks
Toasted shaved almonds
Fried sotanghon noodles
Mandarin oranges, peeled, sliced and outer white membrane cut out

To cook chicken, combine ¼ c freshly squeezed mandarin orange juice, 2 tbsp of honey and 2 tbsp of soy sauce, 1 tbsp of sherry or brandy and 2 tbsp cornstarch. Brown ½ kg of chicken breast (skinned, deboned and cut into ½" strips) in a hot oiled wok or pan. When the chicken has browned, give the orange juice mixture a quick whisk and throw into the pan. Let it simmer until it is very thick and bubbly. Remove from heat and sprinkle toasted sesame seeds and orange zest on chicken.

To make the dressing, in a big bowl combine:

¼ c unseasoned rice wine vinegar
1/3 c sugar
3 tbsp hoisin
1 tbsp Dijon mustard
2 cloves garlic, pestled in a mortar
1 tbsp grated ginger
1 tsp salt
1 tsp pepper

Allow to macerate for 10 minutes or so. Then, while continuously whisking with a wire whisk, add ¼ c sesame oil in a slow steady stream. Then do the same with ¼ c olive oil.



(FROM TOP) Roasted asparagus, zucchini and grape tomatoes, shaved parmesan, edible flowers and truffle oil pizza; the trick to making good pizza is to burn a lot of wood beforehand and get it to 500°. Only start cooking when the fire is out and you are left with embers; (left) Junie's Mandarin Chicken Salad with Hoisin Vinaigrette



Chateauignon Blanc gets guests and chefs in the proper outdoor party mood.



FRIED mozzarella, vegetable, tomato, basil and pesto pizza

THE CREW takes a break. Stacy Rodriguez, Leticia Carpio, J. Gamboa, Junie Rodriguez and Joey Carpio

So very worth the trip

By Greg Garcia

WHEN enjoying a meal with friends who love good food, the conversation invariably goes to a recitation of the restaurants of our youth whose demise we collectively mourn. I then would mentally ask myself the question: were the foods we love to remember really that good? Or did they taste good only because our taste buds then were underdeveloped due to lack of exposure caused by (very, very) limited financial resources. (But, then, think, didn't even the moneyed ones then have limited choices of restaurants?)

In an era when food was just fuel, there truly were outstanding places whose food just refuse to desert my memory and taste buds.

The best-tasting hotdog in New York is reputedly served by Gray's Papaya on 72nd Street and Broadway. The last time I was there gobbling two orders with mustard dripping, my mind did a total rewind that led me to Brown Derby and its foot-long hotdog. Long gone from Taft Avenue near the corner of Herran, Brown Derby's hotdog was peppery, meaty and wrapped in its own cylindrical pan de sal-tasting bread. And, yes, it was a foot long.

Even without mustard or catsup, it was a meal to enjoy. For me, Brown Derby's hotdog beats Gray's Papaya's hotdog by a mile... or at least by a foot!

Binondo doughnuts

My fascination with Krispy Kreme and its excellent local counterpart, Go Nuts, must have its roots in Henry's Donuts. Once located at the foot of Jones Bridge, my classmates in Letran and I would cross the bridge every time we had 45 centavos to blow and rush to Henry's. It was not your usual doughnut then, which tended to be chewy like *bitso-bitso*. (Do they still have

bitso-bitso nowadays?) Henry's doughnut surrendered to every bite. But its distinctiveness came from the special syrup that came with every order. It was a cross between butter-scotch and chocolate. You poured the sauce on top of the doughnut. And then, heaven.

'Siopao' was Ma Mon Luk

Ma Mon Luk *siopao* had a bun that was plump, smooth in texture and light to the bite. (So unlike the small, *matigas-sa-kagat* *siopaos* of today. Comparatively speaking, Ma Mon Luk *siopao* is like a D cup while the Luk Yuens of the world would be an A. Sounds like a brag?) Inside the bun, the "*manok galing Batangas*," as the in-store posters proudly proclaimed, incestuously cavorted with an egg while gifting your mouth with an *adobo-like* taste. There is a place where you can still enjoy Ma Mon Luk *siopao* in its original form and taste. It's called Masuki and it's on Benavides Street in Chinatown. (Don't expect air-conditioning, though.)

But I asked myself: What would I be drooling about in my old age when my now-developed taste buds might be restricted by health requirements?

Like, steak.

The steak that turned me into a steak lover was Alfredo's. In that dark age when Monterey and Santa's were unimaginable, Alfredo's had their own cows to serve on their dining tables. Their steaks could be best described as *malasa* and not bland.

I surreptitiously asked a waiter I had befriended to share with me the restaurant's secret. I expected a list of herbs and spices, but he blurted out only one ingredient: Knorr.

(Believe it or not.) I have since tried it out on grilled Angus rib eye and my guests think I do great steaks.

Best steak

Nice to hear but the best steak for me is in Brooklyn at Peter Luger.

The first time I was there I asked the waiter why he was letting the plate's corner stand on an inverted saucer. He gave me this "you're-so-baduy-look" and said curtly, "So you can enjoy the steak's drippings."

And true enough, the two-inch porterhouse, well-marbled, dry-aged and grilled to holy-cow perfection, with its accompanying drippings was worth the investment in traveling time.

Or to borrow a phrase from the French Michelin guide, *ça vaut le voyage*. It's worth the trip.

There are other supposedly better steak-houses in New York, like Sparks or Post House, but only Peter Luger deserves a pilgrimage.

Jeffrey Steingarten, Vogue magazine's food critic and author of the book, "It Must've Been Something I Ate," wrote that of the 78 top steakhouses in the United States only two passed a stringent test he devised (like, how many of them dry-aged their USDA Prime beef for five weeks or longer?).

Of course, Peter Luger was one of only two! The other one is Bern's Steak House in Tampa.

Last I heard, a waiter of 20 years or so at Peter Luger named Wolfgang (Why do Wolfgang's end up as restaurateurs?) managed to interest some investors and put up a Peter Luger copy in midtown Manhattan (they accept credit cards; Peter Luger does not).

But why settle for a copy when you can have the original? Incidentally, Peter Luger also serves what might be the best pecan pie in New York.

Best veal

The two other carnivorous delights that are "*ça vaut le voyage*" can be found at Marcello in Rome and Casa Paco in Madrid.

Everywhere in the world there is food that lingers in our memory and taste buds

Marcello is on Via Aurora, two blocks from Via Veneto. My family and I went there really for their antipasti misti (some five vegetarian appetizers in large bowls from which everybody tries to out-eat each other) and their primo of three different pastas in three different sauces.

While enjoying the pasta, I was distracted by the sight and aroma of what looked liked, from the corner of my eye, an enormous *lechón kawali* being enjoyed by a couple next table. I asked the waiter what might that be and he proudly proclaimed, "the best veal in the world." I had to go back to Marcello the next night with nothing in mind but "the best veal in the world." It was.

Since then, Marcello has been one of the three reasons I always want to go back to Rome.

Casa Paco is on Puerta Cerrado, about two minutes from Plaza Mayor. Here you get the thickest, juiciest and tastiest steaks in Spain, priced according to weight.


Señor Paco sears his steak in boiling oil before serving them on plates so hot that the almost raw steak continues to cook at your table, preserving the natural juices. (And no, he does not use Knorr.)



ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ


Back to reality, all I can do nowadays is hallucinate over Peter Luger, Marcello or Casa Paco while feeling depressed with the country's sad plight. Thankfully, there's Le Soufflé and its peppered steak. When you sink your teeth into that tenderloin steak, you taste the creamy yet light sauce and after a two-second delay the delicious kick of pepper takes over. Makes you wonder what might the world of food be if the world did not have peppers.

Meantime, with everybody hollering for a more austere lifestyle, the thought of feasting on gastronomic delights will momentarily remain just that—a thought.



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To Lolo and Lola, with love

Grandparents Day

If parents are the extension of God's love for us, then grandparents are proof that God loves us six times over

They put the word 'grand' to parenting

By Normandy dela Paz

SOME of us are lucky enough to have four, some three, others two, while some still have one. Grandparents, we fondly call them *lolo* and *lola*, grandpa and grandma, *dada* and *wawa*, *pappy* and *mammy*, *tata* and *nana*, or *papu* and *mamu*. For some of us who grew up with or have been brought up by our grandparents, we even treat them like our own parents and call them *nancy* and *tatay*, *mama* and *papa*, *pop* and *mom* or *daddy* and *mommy*. If there is anybody in this world that can match or even surpass the love of our parents for us, it's our grandparents. And like our parents, each pair has its own characteristics, which make them more endearing. Here are just some of them:

The Spoilmasters - They come, they spoil, and they conquer. These grandparents usually come during the holidays or weekends to visit us. When they arrive, it usually is a red-letter day for us grandchildren. And why not, we get to eat all the junk

food as well as drink all the soda we want, and be as bratty as we can. We are virtually untouchable when they visit. Our parents can only wince when they see us being spoiled to the core by our grandparents. That's because if we even so much as shed a single tear, it's our parents who will bear the brunt of our grandparents' apocalyptic fury. I think it's our grandparents' way of getting back at our parents for being such spoiled brats themselves when they were growing up. But don't think we've got it made, in a few years our parents will have us drinking a dose of our own medicine.

The Kitchen Wizards - It can be the grandma or the grandpa, but if you have both, then what a treat you are in. These are the grand-

parents who can cook up a mean batch of dishes, which can make any Iron Chef rust with envy. When they visit, they make us feel like kings/queens who need to be fed the best cuisine our parents' kitchen can offer. With them around, waking up early is never a problem, because the aroma alone from the breakfast they are whipping up will surely make our eyes and our nostrils grow bigger and wider. The biggest compliment you can pay them is when you whisper to them, "Grandma/Grandpa, your cooking is much better than mom's/dad's." After all it's like saying that there's no beating the original.

The Handy Dandies - From the moment they enter the house, they'll ask our parents why the front door is squeaky and why are there no potted plants near the door. Then as soon as they drop their bags, grandpa immediately tinkers with the door with his screwdriver and grandma quickly puts on her gloves to put some plants in a pot. They waste no time in turning the house from a field of disarray to an Elysian field. Everything is in proper order. Courtesy of grandpa—the coffeemaker makes coffee, the

toaster toasts, the blender blends, the toilet flush flushes, etc.; courtesy of grandma - month-old laundry looks like it was bought just a month ago, the flower garden has flowers, and the house amazingly looks, well, like a house again. After looking at the house with such awe, we wonder why our parents didn't inherit such skills from them.

The Grand Daddy's and Mommy's - They are the grandparents that are cooler than mom

and dad. They are updated with the latest in fashion, technology, culture, music and anything about our generation. The generation gap departed the day our grandparents said "let's chat online!" They even tell our parents to lighten up when mom or dad asks us what time we're coming home when we go out; and the fun part is our grandparents are tagging along with us to party. These are the grandpas and grandmas who take us shopping for the latest shoes, clothes and gadgets. With grandparents like these, you would think your parents might have been adopted.

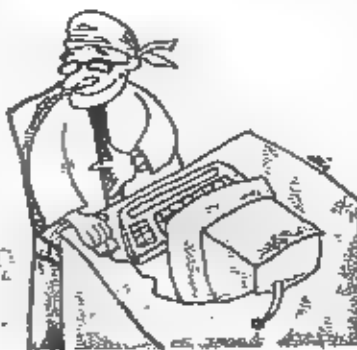
The Earth Gurus - Experience is the best teacher, and no one has more experience about anything and everything in this earth than our grandparents. (Well, maybe the *great* grandparents have something to say about that. But that's a different story.) You can ask them just about anything from such trivial matters as how to fix a broken toy up to how to fix a broken heart. Our grandparents are a treasure trove when it comes to seeking advice, because what they say have been tried and tested for years. When our parents have no time to listen because of their busy schedules, it

pays to talk to grandpa and grandma. We not only learn a thing or two from them, we also show that we value their wisdom and therefore respect them.

If parents are the extension of God's love for us, then grandparents are proof that God loves us six times over because aside from our parents, we have four grandparents that love us equally as our parents, if not more. That is why those who still have all their grandparents are really lucky because they are showered with so much affection. Our grandparents can be Spoilmasters, Kitchen Wizards, Handy Dandies, Grand Daddy's and Mommy's, Earth Gurus or all of these and so much more, but one word can surely describe them, and that is "grand". And so to them we say Happy Grandparents Day! Definitely they put the "grand" in the word grandparents.



Illustrations by Aliza Butiong



Celebrating Grandparents Day with Globe Handyphone

GRANDPARENTS have a knack for making everything special. Whether it's learning to ride a bike or graduating with honors, grandparents show genuine interest in their grandchildren's activities with lavish praises and encouragements, making them feel that each and every accomplishment is a cause for celebration. For grandparents, time spent with their grandchildren is all too precious and they make it a point to make the day enjoyable for their grandchildren, as if every day were a holiday. Thus, it is only fitting that there is a special day to honor these exceptional individuals.

Held every September to symbolize the golden autumn years

of life, Grandparents Day gives everyone the opportunity to spend quality time with their grandparents, to show them the love and attention they deserve, as well as to learn from the wisdom and experiences that they willingly share. But for those whose grandparents live in far-off places, the mobile phone has become the primary means of bridging the generation gap. This is especially true for individuals whose grandparents are based abroad.

With Globe Handyphone's extensive international services, grandchildren can send their love and affection to their grandparents in a number of ways. Globe IDD allows kids to

personally greet their grandparents, as well as share the achievements that make lolo and lola so proud. The texting generation can let grandparents into their life with international text, and with the introduction of international MMS, grandchildren can take photos or home videos using their mobile phones and show their grandparents how much they've grown since they last saw each other. Kids can also download special wallpapers, screensaver, ring tones and greeting cards from the myGlobe site and send this via text or MMS.

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scribers get to enjoy the numerous international services at a low flat rate, whether or not the country is included in Globe's roaming network. International calls cost \$0.40 per minute, while text charges are P10/message and P15/message for Globe postpaid and prepaid subscribers, respectively. Globe Handyphone gives grandchildren of all ages the opportunity to keep in touch with their grandparents as often as they want. Now is the perfect time to show grandparents how much they are appreciated, and to thank them for all their love and support through the years. Because with Globe Handyphone, everyday is Grandparents Day!



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INQUIRER VP IS PROUD GRANDPARENT

A grandparent is, of course, never complete without the grandchild. In this case, Inquirer vice president for advertising Pepto R. Oiarde and loving wife Rosani (left) are proud grandparents twice blessed. The objects of their affections are bright and vivacious grandsons Kurt Philip and Charles Felipe. The Oiarde family wishes all fellow grandparents a fun-filled day of laughter, hugs and kisses.

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WHAT constitutes good oats? Taste, freshness, texture and health-giving benefits should all be there to please the palate of people of all ages. Australia Harvest Oats carries all the vital elements to make an ideal pack of oats. No wonder it is the heart-smart choice of the Filipino household.

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Grandparent Trivia History

IN 1973, West Virginia began a statewide campaign to set aside a special day just for grandparents. The first Grandparents Day was set by Governor Arch Moore.

This campaign was headed by Marian McQuade of Fayette County, mother of fifteen children.

Senator Randolph introduced a resolution in the United States Senate and in 1978, five years after its inception, Congress passed legislation proclaiming the first Sunday after Labor Day as National Grandparents Day.

September was the month chosen, signifying the "autumn years" of life, and today this event, begun by only a few, is observed by thousands throughout the United States.

September 12, 2004 is Grandparents Day. Send a greeting card.

More stories on Grandparents Day on Section I



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Sorry girl, I got a photo shoot. My sked's full till sundown :-)



Then let's just party out tonight with Tim! :-D



I'm game for that :-D Oh great, I just remembered I'm in Singapore :-D



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(FROM LEFT) Lechon du jour à la Perigord; the bread basket in Restaurant "Aux Lyonnais"; summer blooms in the Pyrenees; Fernando and Cyrille with Le Chef de Lamelette Michel Chevallier

A mouth-watering travel

Text by Fernando Aracama
Photos by Cyrille Soenen

FROM THE FABULOUS city of lights, Paris, to the grand peaks, valleys and lakes of the beautiful mountains of the French Pyrenees and to the foie gras and truffle rich countryside of Perigord, it was a chef's journey of discovery, flavors, culture, wines and that off-chance that someone might ask you to cook a lechon for them. Stranger things have happened, believe us.

Here are some culinary high points that Cyrille Soenen and I experienced on our last trip to France. Drum roll, please.

Restaurant 'Aux Lyonnais'

The correct way to eat bread is to break it open and with your eyes closed, inhale and take in the aroma. This was sage advice from eight-year-old Cassandra, daughter of Cyrille and Anna

Soenen. We were having lunch in Alain Ducasse's Restaurant "Aux Lyonnais" in Paris. A typical bistro featuring the specialties of Lyon by chef de cuisine David Rathgeber, Cyrille's old friend from his days in The Ritz Hotel and also at Le Grand InterContinental Hotel in Paris.

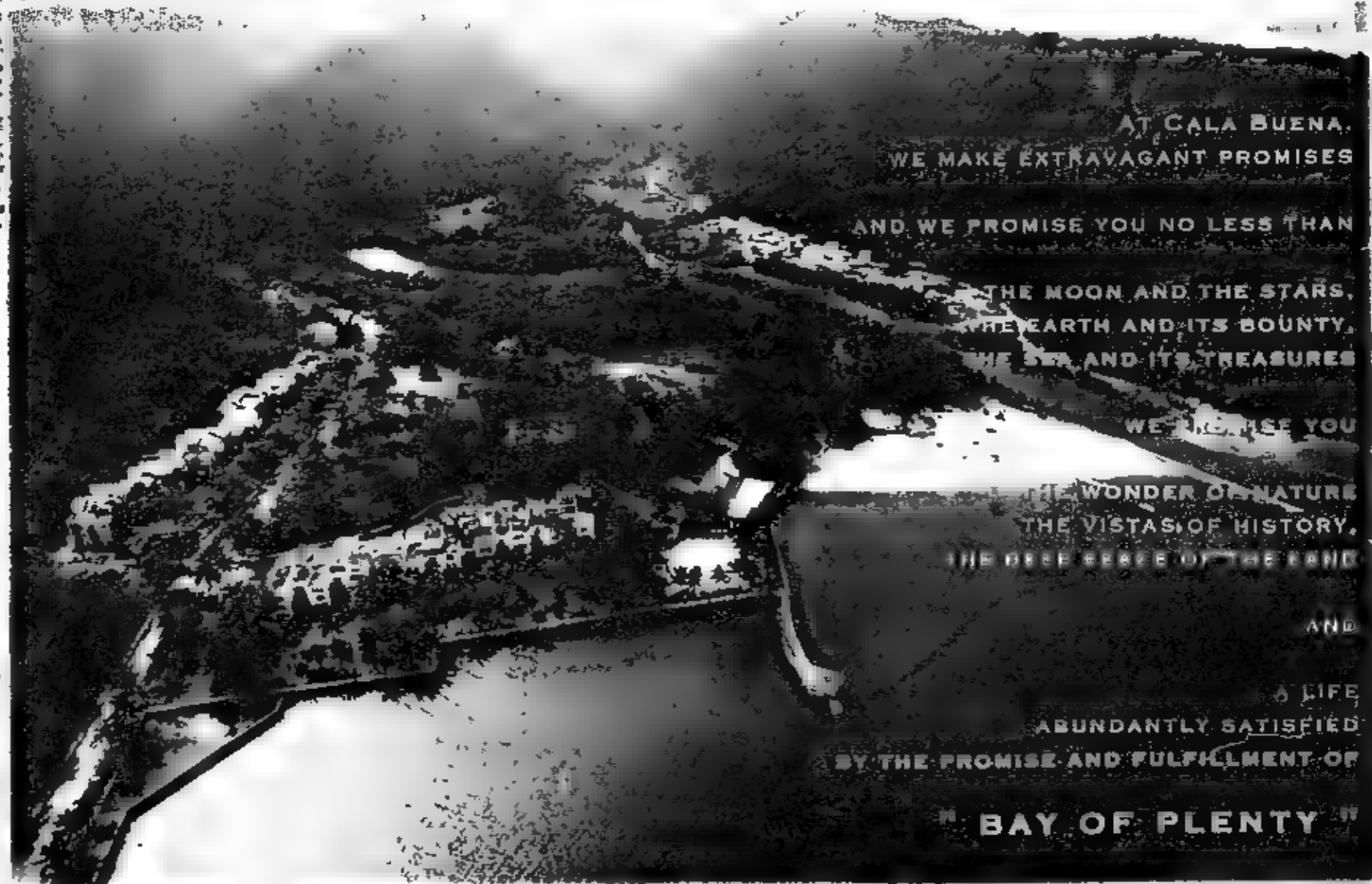
Chef David's menu was small, well-chosen and featured what was only in season. Golden chanterelle or girolle mushrooms, a rarity in our neck of the woods, was in a few items, the best being an egg dish gently cooked in a bain marie with a rich creamy sauce. Artisan sausages and patés or charcuterie in distinct Lyon style were presented with delicious ratte potatoes, boiled eggs and a simple vinaigrette. I tried the rillette of rabbit with foie gras and marinated vegetables. Simply flavored but very rich and satisfying. The sour dough bread toast that came with this was excellent! Cyrille had truffled spring vegetables that had baby radish, haricots verts, spring onions and baby carrots served in a small pot. A typical spring dish seasoned with fleur de sel (flower of salt) and freshly ground pepper.



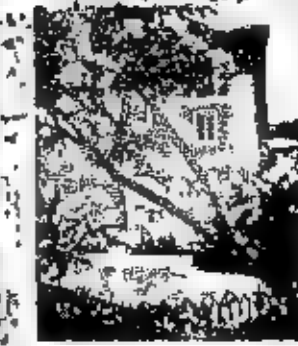
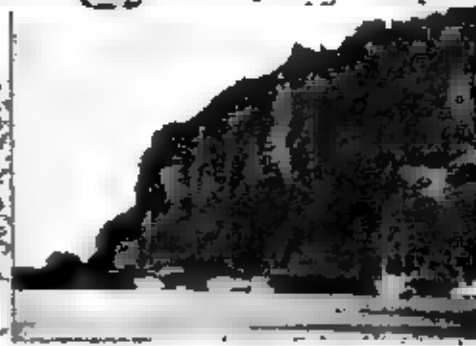
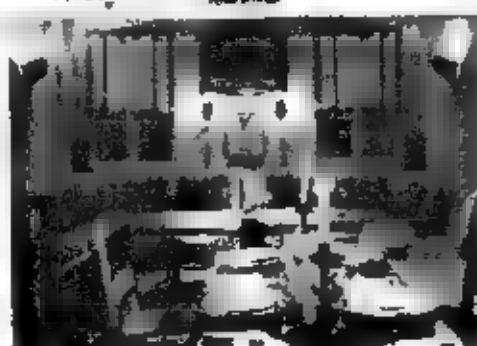
SOENEN family grand fete

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A classic bistro lunch, a Michelin bout, and a Pinoy fiesta in France make for unforgettable gustatory adventures

ogue

For the main course we chose roasted sea bass with fennel, and a big rib eye steak with fresh mushrooms and baby potatoes and crayfish with quenelles. The sea bass dish was accompanied by both roasted and fresh fennel. The crunchiness of the fresh fennel shavings gave texture to the muddy flavored fish and the sweeter cooked fennel underneath. The steak was a hefty piece good for two served in a hot pan surrounded by grouse mushrooms and cooking juices. A deceptively simple dish but very hearty in flavor and substance. The crayfish quenelles were airy and light floating on crayfish essence. Cyrille liked it very much.

We tried the Saint-Marcellin for the cheese course and I loved it. It had that great funky aroma and flavor. We ate it by scooping the cheese out of its terra cotta container with a shalot rubbed toasted baguette. It was very good. For our desserts we had a sampling of what was on the menu. Cherry clafoutis and a side of granita was a nice dual temperature dish that we tried. I really enjoyed the rhubarb and strawberry crisp. It's a warm compote of fresh rhubarb and strawberries topped with a sweet biscuit/cookie crust and some homemade ice cream. We also had a chocolate hazelnut dessert that was rich and nutty.

This was a classic bistro lunch. The season dictated the menu and it made perfect sense. The flavors were uncomplicated and honest. The vegetables were naturally sweet and pronounced. The mushrooms were delicate and meaty. The sausages and pates were light and filled with tradition. The bread, oh my god, the bread. C'est superbe! This bistro rocks! What a pleasure to have experienced the cuisine of chef David Rathgeber.

Ledoyen

After spending the day with my old friends Mickey, Minnie, Donald and Goofy in Disneyland Resort Paris where adult happy meals consist of a hotdog, pommes frites (French fries) and a beer, we were off to see the wizard—the wonderful wizard of the three-star Michelin restaurant, Pavillon Ledoyen, chef des cuisines Christian Le Squer. Chef Le Squer was Cyrille's mentor when they worked in the kitchens of both The Ritz and Le Grand InterContinental Hotel.

There are only a handful of three-star Michelin restaurants in Europe and Ledoyen in Paris is one of the frontrunners. The restaurant is on what Cyrille proudly calls the most beautiful street in the world, the Champs-Élysées. I couldn't agree more. A lush and blooming garden surrounded the restaurant and screened the busy traffic close by. The interiors were subdued and pleasing. It had a quiet, modest yet elegant atmosphere around it. Nothing ostentatious or overboard, the dining room was classically French and well appointed.

Joining us for dinner was Cyrille's wife, Anna, and his father, Jean Claude. We were served champagne cocktail drinks and small bites of savory morsels or amuse bouche. The foie gras in napoleon and the smoked salmon rolls were exceptionally good. Menus were offered to each one of us, but only Cyrille's folder had prices because he was the host of our party. It was still spring and the repertoire was a showcase of the best of the season. Quality over quantity was the rule here. There was an à la carte selection and an offer that read "The discovery of the season (for 1000 francs) ensure, allow chef Christian Le Squer to be your guide through a special

ROASTED
Langoustine with
citrus emulsion in
Ledoyen (top); three-
star Michelin
restaurant Ledoyen
in Paris

five-course menu." We bought it!

All four of us took the degustation of chef Le Squer. And we were all quietly excited. The breads they presented were amazing in variety and out of the ordinary. One was a deep black bread roll made with squid ink and shrimp essence. Another was almost like puff pastry with thousands of leafy layers studded with smoked bacon. The breads were fantastic!

Then dinner was served. The first course was a mousseine of herring (roe) with avocado, tomato aspic and olive oil. It was refreshing, light, tart, which balanced with the bold flavor of the fish roe. Served cold, the dish was a nice jump-start for the taste buds. For the second course, chef Le Squer presented a simple plate of roasted langoustine from Brittany. The waiters served the citrus emulsion foam a la minute to each of our plates. As the foam is spooned over the hot langoustine it sizzles and slowly melts a glaze. The fresh tartness of the emulsion was a perfect contrast to the sweet almost delicate flavor of the langoustine. A trickle of basil puree on the side of the plate gave an herbal and aromatic bouquet to what I consider to be by far one of the most delicious dishes I have tasted. I wanted to do backflips of joy.

Spider crab was served for our third course. This was an interesting dish. It was a deconstruction and a reconstruction of the spider crab. Sounds daft? Okay, let me explain. It's a spider crab shell filled with crab meat, crab aspic (gelatin) and caviar, topped with crab essence foam and garnished with crab fat "chips" and seaweed sprouts. It was both beautiful and delicious. From a chef's point of view this is not the easiest thing to do. The fourth course was lobster from Brittany (like the langoustines) with sweet pea custard and jurancon wine sauce. The flavors were subdued and clean. The lobster was delicious.

An interesting green apple sorbet with cauliflower foam was served next. By this time we were ready for our sixth course, dessert! Warm plates were served, but instead of a soufflé we had a beautiful and perfectly sized sea bass with fresh almonds, grouse mushrooms and a green herb jus. The fish was almost airy, light and flaky. The sauce was grassy and fresh in flavor. The perks of knowing the chef has its advantages, and Cyrille knew chef Le Squer very well.

On our seventh course we weren't surprised when chef Le Squer sent out one of Ledoyen's signature specialties: Braised turbot on crushed ratte potatoes and a truffle butter sauce. It was indeed special. The turbot fillet was perfection marrying nicely into the luxurious sauce of truffles and the roughness of the potatoes for a subtle textural contrast. Genius.

Somehow when the red wine was being poured into our glasses, we knew chef Le Squer still had something to show us. Something meaty. I said duck and Cyrille said lamb. Cyrille won. Lamb loin from Limousin served with a navarin jus and a meticulous pasta gratin structure. The meat was tender and the sauce punchy with flavor worked well with the lamb.

Small mignardise (pre-dessert bites) were served and desserts followed. We had two desserts to try. One was a spectacular onion served in between layers of crisp basqu croquant with hot fried pas-

try puffs on the side and fresh grapefruit segments and another was a crispy chocolate soufflé with spun sugar and chocolate rule cigarettes. I loved both desserts.

After a few moments we finally met the wizard, chef Christian Le Squer. He was very happy that we enjoyed the feast and he stayed and chatted with us for some time.

What an excellent experience. Christian Le Squer truly is a wizard and in a class all on his own.

Fiesta in Perigord

A fiesta was planned by Cyrille's brother, Thierry Soenen, in his home in Lamelette in the Perigord region. Thierry had

lived in the Philippines a few years ago, working as a furniture designer in Cebu. He has come to visit Cyrille and Anna many times and knows our culture very well.

For this fiesta he really wanted to have Cebuano style lechon together with the typical regional fare of Perigord. Being true presentados, Cyrille and I convinced Thierry to go for gold and make it a true Filipino fiesta complete with a full Filipino menu to go with the lechon. Thierry was easily convinced and agreed.

We quickly made the menu and came up with a list of Pinoy specials. We had to be ready for substitutes because finding the right ingredients wouldn't be as easy.

So for appetizers we made fresh lumpia using Vietnamese rice paper as our wrapper. We made kinilaw na isda using salmon and monkfish. A salad of chopped vegetables with duck confit and spicy toyo vinaigrette. This was inspired by the Chop Chop Saad in Uva. For the main courses we cooked a beef short rib adobo complete with fried kamote as a garnish. Chicken inasal was also in the buffet and we even made sinamak-style cider vinegar. Sotanghon gusado was cooked with tenga ng daga and French mushrooms and patis. Bonggo style garlic fried rice or kalo kalo was done using achuete oil for that "faux" saffron look.

The pièce de résistance was of course the lechon. It was Cyrille's first time to do a lechon. For me, technically, I "watched" people do lechon since I was a boy in Negros. So that experience has made me become an "expert." We stuffed the pig with all red onions, garlic, green onions, lemongrass, bay leaves, black peppercorns and plenty of rock salt. Drove a long metal spike through and got ready to roast the pig. Jean Claude and his friend Michel Chevalier, whom



OUT FOR LUNCH with the Soenens in Ducas's Aux Lyonnais

we christened Le Chef de Lamelette, were in charge of the roasting pit. So there under the shade of the pear and apple trees, a French-born pig was lovingly roasted by a French chef to be served in a Pinoy dinner buffet. Funny Really.

Sixty people came for dinner. Relatives from as far as Paris drove down for the fiesta. Old friends and new ones shared long tables filled with beautiful wild flowers, candles and capiz shell lanterns all done by Bernard. Like the food, the decor and feel of the party was a true Pinoy and French fusion.

And everybody had a grand time. For some it was the first

time they tasted Filipino food and they loved it. Then it was time for the grand finale of Cyrille's masterpiece lechon. There was applause, oohs and aahs. We made three sauces for the lechon—sinamak, a fruit chutney and whole grain mustard. Everybody was thrilled to see and finally taste the lechon.

Cyrille, Anna, Thierry and I had a blast putting the dinner together. Just like here at home and everywhere else, food brings people together. Repasts grand or simple are always far more wonderful when shared with the company of friends and loved ones. Cooking then becomes an ultimate pleasure.

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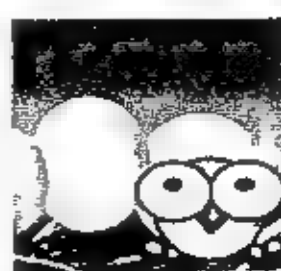
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Evanescence
Black Eyed Peas
Queen
Rolling Stones
Kylie Minogue
Avril Lavigne
Enrique Iglesias
Sean Paul
Evanescence
Britney Spears
Beyoncé
Rihanna
The Clash
LeAnn Rimes
Stephanie
Pink
Prodigy
Matchbox Twenty
Janet Jackson
Dr. Dre

Music keyword
TONE BREAKHABIT
TONE IMMORTAL
TONE LETSGET
TONE ROCKYOU
TONE SATISFAC
TONE CANTGET
TONE LOSING
TONE HERE
TONE GETBUSY
TONE BRINGME
TONE TOXIC
TONE TALKABOUT
TONE SHOULD
TONE SHOULDIGO
TONE CANTFIGHT
TONE GUNSIN
TONE CANTLET
TONE BREATHE
TONE BENT
TONE JUSTALITTLE
TONE WEST
TONE DRDRE

Song Title
In The End
My Immortal
Let's Get It Started
We Will Rock You
(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction
Can't Get You Out Of My Head
Losing Grip
Here
Get Busy
Bring Me Back To Life
Toxic
Talk About Our Love
Should I Stay Or Should I Go
Can't Fight The Moonlight
Guns In The Wild
Can't Let Me Get Me
Breathe
Bent
Just A Little While
West Episode
Night Thru

Artist
Linkin Park
Evanescence
Black Eyed Peas
Queen
Rolling Stones
Kylie Minogue
Avril Lavigne
Enrique Iglesias
Sean Paul
Evanescence
Britney Spears
Beyoncé
Rihanna
The Clash
LeAnn Rimes
Stephanie
Pink
Prodigy
Matchbox Twenty
Janet Jackson
Dr. Dre
Chingy

Poly Keyword
POW SYNTHEND
POW IMMORTAL
POW LETSGET
POW ROCKYOU
POW SATISFAC
POW CANTGET
POW LOSING
POW HERE
POW GETBUSY
POW BRINGME
POW TOXIC
POW TALKABOUT
POW SHOULD
POW SHOULDIGO
POW CANTFIGHT
POW GUNSIN
POW CANTLET
POW BREATHE
POW BENT
POW JUSTALITTLE
POW WEST
POW DRDRE

How to download a logo, ring tone or picture messages

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288

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Sunday LIFE STYLE Home

Weekend retreat on high

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Chito Vecina

THE COUPLE and their friends love to savor the awesome view from the top. And they get a chance to do this quite often, as they like to hold parties and meetings at their two-story penthouse unit in a fairly decongested area in Quezon City.

"Instead of holding parties in a hotel," says the husband, who, together with the wife, wishes to remain anonymous, "it's better and a lot cheaper to hold them here. We just hire a caterer to provide the food, and we can stay up all night enjoying each other's company."

The couple, who is into real estate and construction, owns the 12-story building and several other buildings around Metro Manila. Most of the units below their "corporate guest house" are either leased out or already sold. They live in another part of Quezon City, but decided to keep the penthouse unit as a venue for get-togethers.

Pride and joy

The unit comes with five rooms, including a study room-cum-office and the husband's pride and joy: a cozy entertainment room with 8.1 channel-speakers (as opposed to the standard 5.1 channel-system) that, he says, is "the closest thing you'll get to reality."

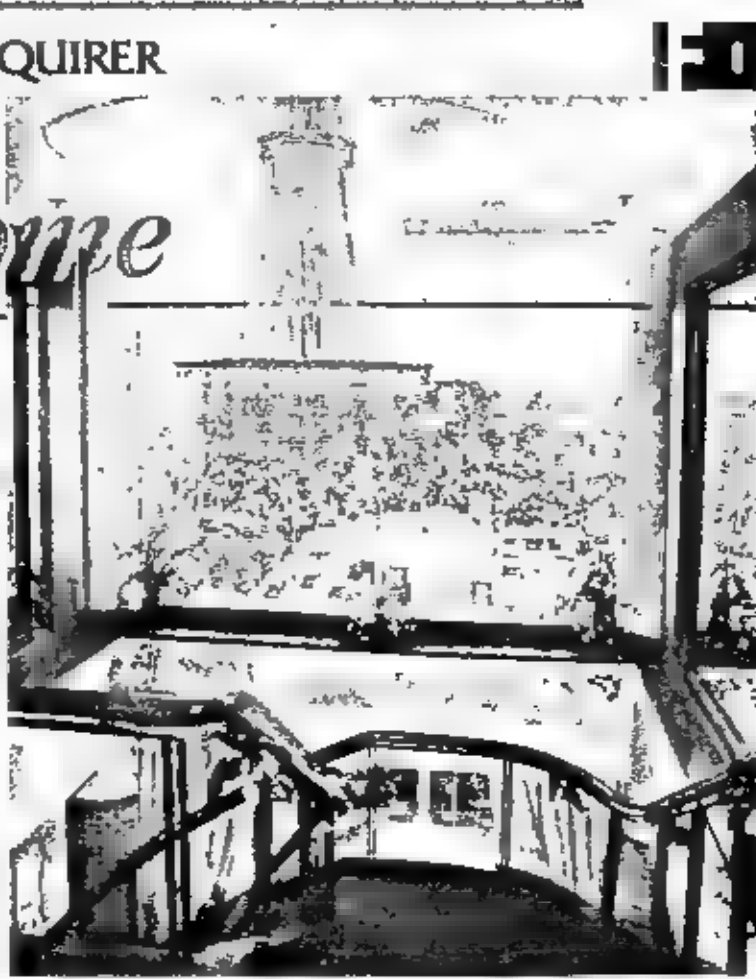
The stereo system is SACD or Super Audio CD-compatible. As such, the husband has recently been buying available titles under the new, more expensive format. SACDs cost anywhere between P1,200 to 1,800 a pop.

"I don't look down on people who go for pirated DVDs," says the husband. "But we also have to buy original DVDs to enable us to fully enjoy the system."

Predictably, the husband goes for action and classic Hollywood films from "Gladiator" to "Citizen Kane," "The Godfather" to "It's a Wonderful Life," while the wife prefers comedy and light romance. She cites "The Sound of Music" and "My Fair Lady" as two of her all-time favorites.

We also spot such films as "White Oleander," "Lizzie McGuire," "American Beauty" and, yes, "View from the Top" alongside such slambang action flicks as "The Matrix" on their extensive DVD shelf.

"We love to curl up on the sofa and watch films during weekends and long holidays," says the wife. "I hardly notice the hours pass by as we view film upon film. With no paperwork to attend to, I feel so relaxed despite all that sound. I often find myself



This cozy penthouse atop a 12-story building in QC offers an awesome view of the metropolis

VIEW from the top and through a picture window

Anchors aweigh! For the Treasure Adventure of a Lifetime!

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- 4 IBM Desktop Computers
- 4 IBM Laptop Computers
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JULY 16 to SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

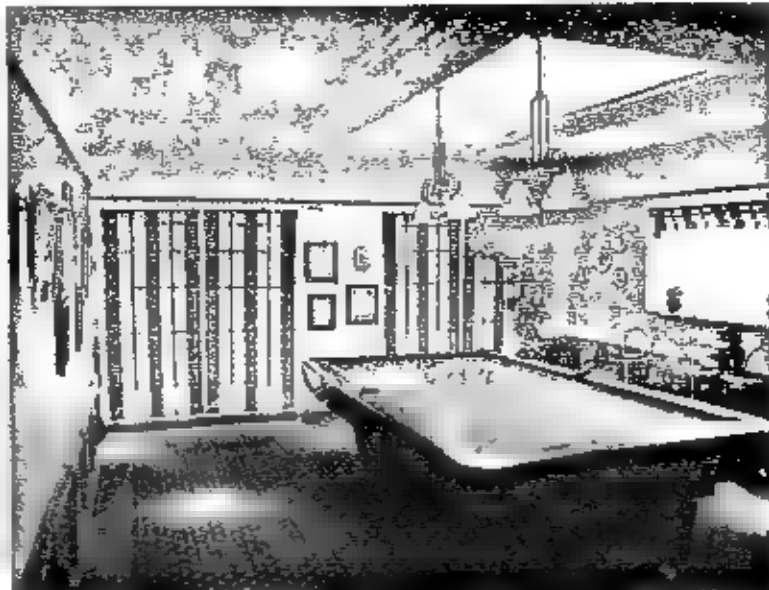
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GAME room



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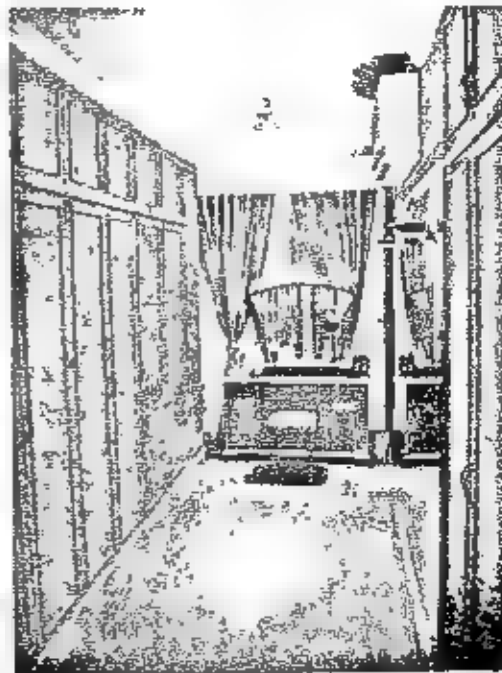
Weekend retreat on high



A PATCH of the outdoors is ideal for cocktails and barbecue parties.

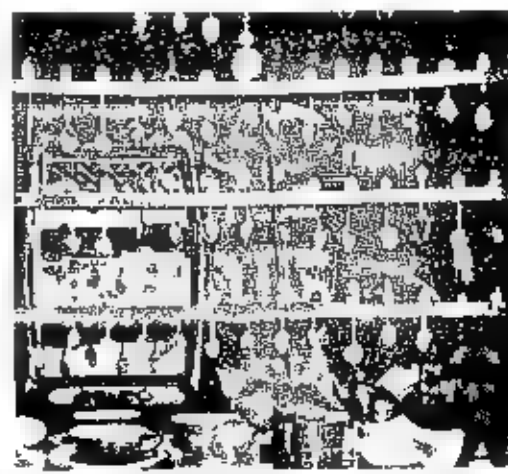


STRIPED sofa covers and beribboned throw pillows for a homey feel



WALK-IN closet

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph



SPOONS from various corners of the globe



ENTERTAINMENT room with an 8.1-speaker system



SITTING area by the master bedroom

From page F1

dozing off in the middle of the film."

The couple's two boys are now grown-up. In fact, one of them is already married. After going to church on Sunday morning, they often spend the afternoon together in the guest-house.

Part of its appeal, of course, is the bird's eye view it offers of the city, which is best seen by the winding stairs with a huge picture window. If you prefer the outdoors, a terrace hedged by potted plants and shrubs is the perfect alternative. The open-air stretch has been the site of countless barbecue parties.

"Since Metro Manila is the best place to be during Holy Week," says the wife, "we often find ourselves spending it here. The terrace also affords us a wonderful view of fireworks come New Year's Eve."

European look

When it came to decorating the place, the wife, with ample help from interior designer Rom Vic Alameda, called the shots. It's a good thing she and the husband both go for a "European look." Thus, most of the furniture pieces that make up the unit are Italian-made.

Since it's a weekend home, the unit has a decidedly hotel feel to it: wallpapered walls and wall-to-wall carpeting upstairs. The wife's penchant for buying little knickknacks is evident as the place has its share of novelty items from malls and flea markets as well as mementos from their travels abroad.

One such souvenir is a miniature "Last Supper" carved from olive wood, which the couple bought on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. She also loves collecting miniature spoons from various corners of the globe.

What to do with them? They were kept from view for quite a while until the husband had their china cabinet converted to showcase the wife's extensive spoon collection. The living room's indoor fountain area also serves as a showcase for her collection of brass animal figures.

The living room also doubles as a music room, as it features a karaoke system and a baby grand. It was the wife's mother who gave the couple the 1955 Steinway. The husband then had the piano restored.

As no one in the family tinkers with the piano, friends are most welcome to play it during one of those all-nighters the couple regularly hosts.

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Sunday LIFE STYLE Travel

My one moment in time in Athens

I showed my Olympic spirit when, after learning that Borgy Manotoc and my spouse would be roomed together, I protested and said I should be roomed with Borgy instead

I HAVE always wondered what the term "it sounds Greek to me" means. The only time I had been to Greece was during a Mediterranean cruise ages ago, so I didn't get to see much. So when the opportunity came to go to Athens and watch the greatest sporting event in the world, I grabbed it. I

TESSA!

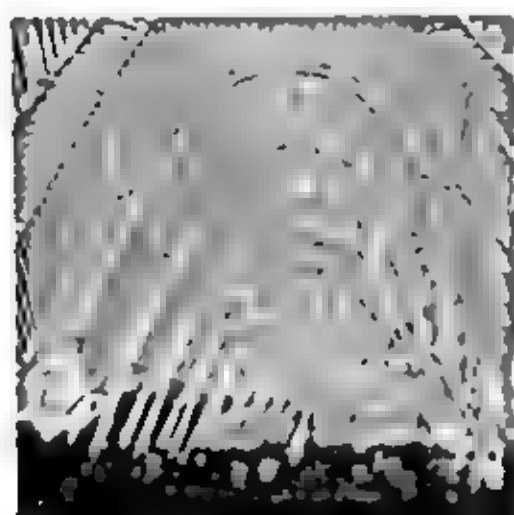
Tessa Prieto-Valdes

also hit Power-Books to find a Lonely Planet book on Greece and discover what "sounds Greek" really means.

Our Pinoy Big 5 Team to the Olympics sponsored by Swatch/Gift Gate

magnate Virgie Ramos, who unfortunately was so busy in Manila with other events that she could not go. The team was led by Swatch dynamo Pinky Alejandro and included hunk mode, Borgy Manotoc and bashfully hand-

PHOTO: G2



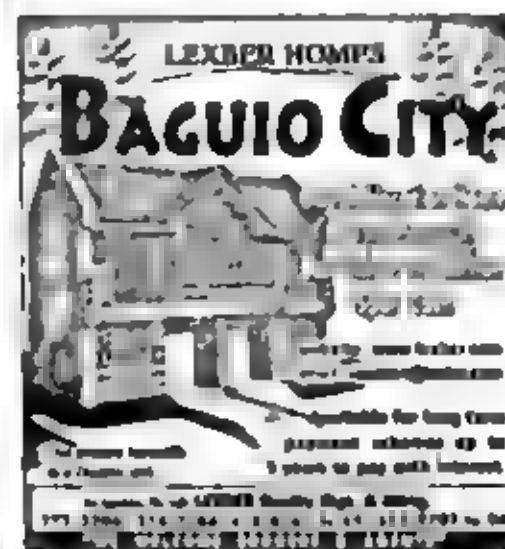
METAL archway going to the main Olympic stadium

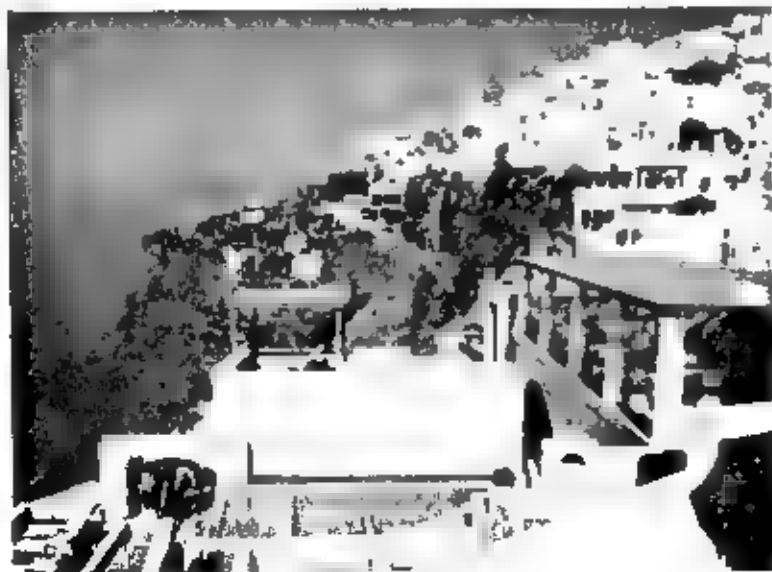


SEEN too at the Olympic arena



'Di nila mapigilang manggigil!

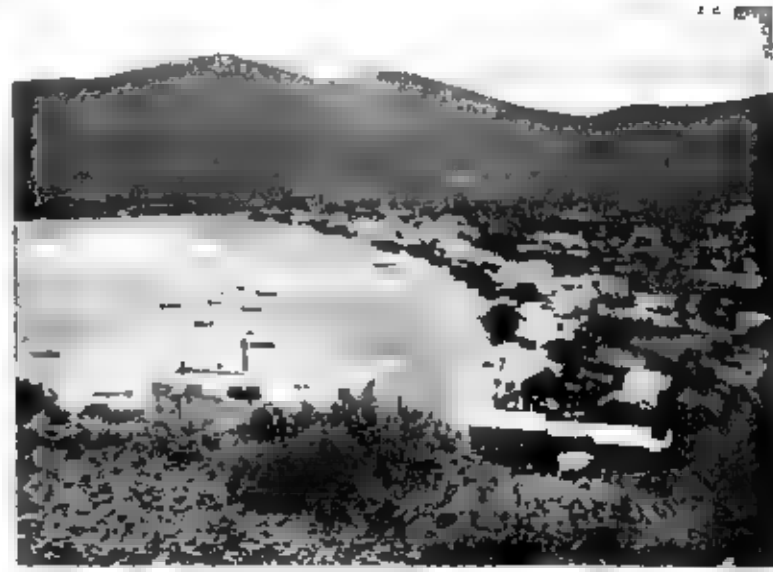




WHITEWASHED homes on the cliffs of Santorini Island



THE FAMOUS sunset in Oia always draws a crowd.



THE PLATYS Gialos (Big Beach) on Sifnos Island

My one moment in time in Athens

From page G1

some director Rowell Santiago, armed with his new Fuji FinePix S7000 digital camera. My travel organizer-husband Dennis and I completed the team.

In the travel world, a group of five always presents a rooming issue: Who gets to sleep alone in one room? Interestingly, those conservative Swiss had me rooming with Pinky and Dennis with Borge. I was quick to point out that I should be the one rooming with Borge!

The Olympic Stadium was breathtaking. On the left was a humongous mesh of steel forming a fan-shaped archway, with fountains on the sides. The archway fanned around a central plaza where ubiquitous gyros and other food could be bought. On the other side of the plaza was 200-meter-long steel sculpture by the Spanish artist Calatrava. Composed of long, steel poles, all beside each other like a giant Chinese firecracker, the sculpture moved as waves of wind flowed through it, making it an enormous wind chime.

There were so many things to see in the plaza that it took a good 30 minutes to cross it, finally arriving at the main stadium where the Olympic flame greeted us. There we had ample chances to take photos! Amazingly, so many of the winners were Chinese. China is truly a great sporting nation. One could feel that the athletic balance of power was shifting toward Beijing 2008!

Loathed

When we watched the men's basketball medal games, there was so much negativity directed toward the US team, you might have thought they were responsible for the invasion of Iraq!

In the gold medal game, we found ourselves rooting on the same side as the "Filipinos of Europe"—the Italians—who came in full, national flag costumes and would all chant in unison, "Fuerza ragazzi! Let's go boys! And when Argentina pulled off the win against the US, the Italians stood up to salute their team effort, thanking them with cheers of "Grassie ragazzi!" A great display of national pride.

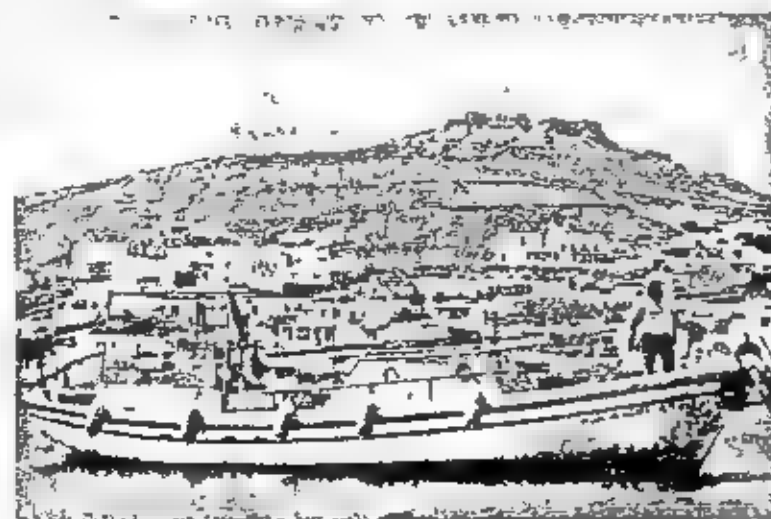
After the medal ceremony, one of the Italians threw his bouquet to the crowd and as luck would have it, Rowell caught it and gave it to me. Afterwards, walking back to the bus, someone asked if I was a medalist and I was quick to answer, "Yes, synchronized swimming!"

Swatch also included the essential tour of the attractions of Athens. The city is a crossroads, where mountains meet the sea, East meets West and a turbulent history coexists with a modern lifestyle.

Its pride is the Acropolis, a mountain in the middle of the city, all the more majestic because there are no high-rises in Athens. On the mountaintop are a number of structures, including the Temple of Athena Nike, which



CUBAN baseball team with Swatch people, Borge Manotoc and Pinky Alejandro



might sound like a corporate sponsorship but is actually a tribute to the goddess of wisdom, in victory mode.

The most famous of all the ruins is the Parthenon, the largest building in the Acropolis and a photo op from every angle.

The best part of the Acropolis is that it is a short walk away from the Plaka, one of Athens's prime shopping areas. The Plaka has pedestrian-only shopping streets, one of which led to the Swatch Ionic Center, where one could get all the Olympic logo watches. Shopping for traditional Greek items like sandals, icons, metal jewelry, food (anything in olive oil is so Greek), etc. is best done in the Monastiraki flea market, another short walk away in the area called Kolonaki.

While the Greek wedding theme and every-

thing about the closing ceremonies was beautiful, I must admit to a bit of bias. The little portion dedicated to China was a super impressive introduction, and gives us all a preview of what will surely be an unbelievable Olympiad in Beijing in 2008.



HUNK Borge goes shirtless at the Athens Intercontinental pool.



SECURITY blimp flies over the giant Calatrava wind chime.



BEST way to move around: scooter rented for 15 euro



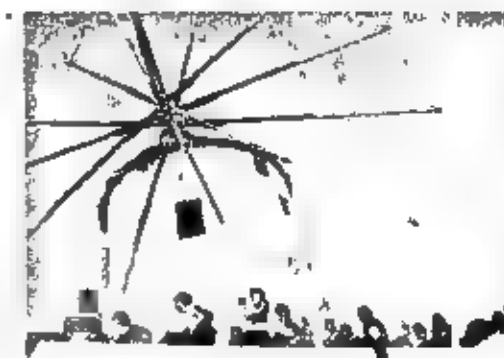
DIRECTOR Rowell Santiago with a canoeing gold medalist



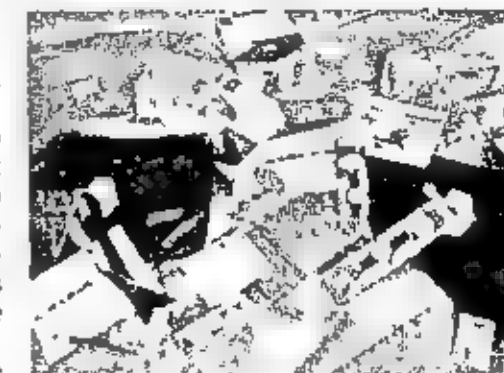
ANOTHER beautiful day in the Greek islands



CHRYSSOPIGI church in Sifnos



WINDMILL on Santorini Island



SWATCH gear for the Olympics

on sheer, cliff walls overlooking a tranquil bay with a volcano island in the middle. We found a beautiful hotel, with only 22 rooms, each cut into the cliff walls like a little private cave.

The third and last stop was Mykonos. With its adventurous nightlife and shopping, this is like a little Malate. I highly recommended this island to all my gay friends.

Greece is so beautiful. The country has indeed upgraded its value. If you are lost in Greece, just make sure to ask directions from any of those chiseled and gorgeous Greek men, who are far better-looking than the women.

As I wore my Adidas jacket proudly, with "Philippines" on the back, I know our nation should definitely sponsor an Olympics sometime in the future. I will have my daughter Annika train for the gymnastics so when she gets her scores, I will sit beside her and we will be seen worldwide as our national anthem is played and our flag hoisted to the top. Now that is a great dream! Or does that sound Greek to you?

E-mail me at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

THE PINOY Big 5 Team in front of the Parthenon in Athens



TRAVEL BRIEFS

Bicol pilgrimage

CAUSEWAY Travel is offering a pilgrimage tour of the Bicol region Sept. 16-19. The tour will cover the Mt. Mayon, Our Lady of Peñafrancia, Black Nazarene and Our Lady of Salvation. Highlight of the pilgrimage is the fluvial parade for Our Lady of Peñafrancia, the patroness of the region, along Naga River.

Also in the itinerary are Lake Buhi in Camarines Sur and Camalig and Cagsawa in Albay.

Call 4725569 and 0916-3963963.

Hotel is now 'smoke-free'

SULO Hotel is the place for people who want their environment smoke-free.

The 68-room hotel's policy is in compliance with Republic Act 9211, or the Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003. Sulo advises guests upon check-in of the no-smoking policy. "No Smoking Hotel" signs are posted in strategic places to remind diners and other guests.

Diwata Cocktail Lounge is the only place in the hotel where smoking is permitted. The lounge features live entertainment every night.

Sulo Hotel is on Matalino Road, Dili-man, QC. Call 9245051.

New hotel opens Sept. 15

THE HYATT Hotel and Casino Manila at corners Pedro Gil, M. H. del Pilar and Mabini Streets in Manila opens Sept. 15.

The mixed-use complex occupies 94,000 sq m and includes a hotel, casino and residences. The hotel, occupying the 32-story tower with a nine-story podium, has 378 guest rooms including 113 executive floor rooms, 61 suites and five Presidential Suites, three restaurants and bars, and three banquet facilities.

The Regency Club has 61 rooms on five floors. Facilities and services include a circular private lounge where breakfast, all-day coffee and tea, and pre-dinner drinks are served.

The five Presidential Suites have 180-

degree views of the bay and include living and dining areas.

The hotel's dining places are Market Café, Lili Chinese restaurant and Fireplace, an upscale steak house.

The casino is the largest hotel gaming facility in the country.

The architectural design, done by Hong Kong-based Bilkey Limas Design, blends classic elegance and contemporary style. Consultant Art Internationale Asia Incorporated distinctive art pieces by notable Filipino and foreign artists in the interiors.

Gottfried Bogensperger is the general manager of Hyatt Hotel and Casino.

The hotel opens in stages. The Sept. 15 event will signify the availability of over 100 rooms, as well as the lounge and banquet facilities. The hotel will mark its grand opening in early December.

Call toll-free in the United States and Canada, 1-800-233-1234, your local Hyatt Hotel or Worldwide Sales Office, or visit www.hyatt.com.



THE NEW Hyatt Hotel's interiors blend classic elegance and contemporary style.



Q. P. Designs' latest social invitations

Theme party, wedding fair Sept. 18-19

THE THEME Party and Wedding Expo, the first party expo, will be held at the Wack Wack Golf and Country Club Pavilion, Sept. 18-19.

Maryjo Reyes Feraren of The Plaza Catering said the event would be a chance to share ideas on planning and holding celebrations.

At Theme Party and Wedding Expo, party suppliers and party planners will showcase their latest products and services. The Plaza Catering will display to prospective clients its various setups for children's parties, debuts, weddings and others.

The two-day event will feature on Sept. 18 a fashion show of bridal gowns by the country's leading designers at 6 p.m.; and "Let's Get Elemental," a multi-media art party, at 10 p.m.

At 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sept. 19, there will be the Children's Sunday Entertainment hosted by Clowning Around. Sunday Networking Social, a singles networking soirée of the Pil-Chi Youth, will be held 3-7 p.m.

Admission is free.

Call 0917-8172206 or 8191497.

Pop orchestra goes to the park

THE CENTRO Escolar University Pop Orchestra takes center stage today as "Concert at the Park Goes Pop."

Conducting the student orchestra in its maiden performance at the park is Tom Nazareno. Featured vocalists are Karen Gil Ricofuerto, Marie Stacy Margaret Diaz and Precious Dumaya. Patrick Pecho is sax soloist.

Minette Padilla hosts the show.

"Concert at the Park" is a regular weekly cultural project of the National Parks Development Committee, under executive director Jaime K. Recio, and the National Broadcasting Network. It is directed for television by Morris M. Paredes from a script by Gle Y. Arnold. It is aired 6-7 p.m. every Tuesday on Channel 4, with replays 6-7 p.m. every Saturday. Federico A. Edos is the executive in charge of the project.

The CEU orchestra is composed of students from the university's different colleges.

Admission to "Concert at the Park" is free.

Meanwhile, "Paco Park Presents" last Friday featured Mamie Ella Reyes and Mary Ann Choco, students of pianist Najib Ismail. Ms. Thea Perez hosted the program.

"Paco Park Presents" is a regular public service project of the National Parks Development Committee, under executive director Jaime K. Recio, and the National Broadcasting Network. It is regularly aired on Channel 4 at 6 p.m. every Tuesday.

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Don't let dengue reign when it rains.

From January to August 2003, a total of 80 deaths in the Philippines were caused by dengue. This year, it's bound to strike again during the rainy season. We urge you to be prepared against this deadly rainy day enemy.

Dengue is an acute viral disease caused by a bite from a mosquito carrying the dengue virus. The primary symptoms of dengue in young children include a skin rash and a mild fever. Older children and adults may have a high fever with severe pain in the head and muscles. Other symptoms may include shaking chills, diarrhea, and vomiting. Bouts of extreme exhaustion may last for months after the initial symptoms. Dengue often victimizes children from 1-9 years old.*

Prevent dengue from taking your child's life. Take these special precautions to avoid contact with mosquitoes this rainy season:

- Remove all breeding places of mosquitoes inside and outside your home such as tin cans, rubber tires and bottles.
- Drain accumulated water from trees and plants.
- Cover water storage containers.
- Clean house gutters to prevent water stagnation.
- Keep unscreened windows and doors closed.

A message of concern brought to you by Paracetamol NAPREX.



Basta lagnat ng bata...

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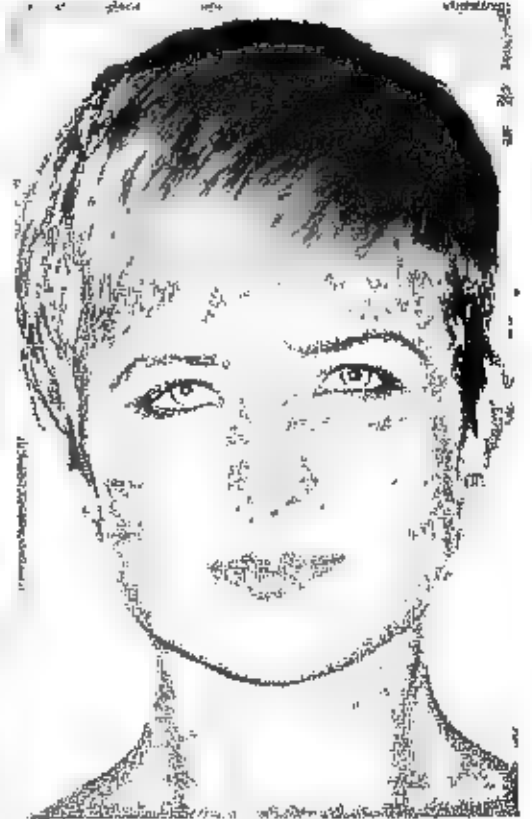


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THE PEDIATRIC SPECIALIST

*Data: Communicable Disease, Hospital and Health Data with Pedro S. Chan, M.D.



PIXIE crop



FUNKY midlength

Hair advice for 'lolas' on Grandparents' Day

HAIR guru Tony Galvez salutes grandmothers and great grandmothers on the occasion of Grandparents' Day.

To make grandmothers look their best on the special day, he offers advice on two common practices among women in their senior years.

Instead of teasing hair to achieve volume, they should minimize stress on aging hair by having wash-and-wear hairstyles that will make perming, setting or roller-brushing unnecessary.

Gentle or mild shampoos, conditioners and styling aids should be used. Gently massaging the scalp regularly with organic oil, such as the Tony Galvez signature organic oil from extracts of herbal plants, would also help.

Instead of using dark colors for gray hair that only serve to emphasize age, lighter shades should be used. Hair should be dyed completely only once a year using vegetable products.

Galvez designs three layered and textured hairstyles, ideal for thinning hair.

PIXIE Crop is for those with good cheekbones or oval faces who prefer versatile short hair that's sharp and ready-to-wear. Textured Bob is sophisticated and sexy with its disconnected lengths and chipped ends. Funky Midlength remains manageable with its long layers, uneven ends and one-sided bangs.

Meanwhile, enrollment is ongoing at the TGSC for two-year hair specialization courses with diploma and transcript of records, regular certificate courses, and one-on-one tutorials.

A 16-module cosmetology state board exam review based on American and European standards is also being offered.

Visit The Tony Galvez Salon at The Tony Galvez Centrum, 124 9th Ave., near corner P. Thazon Boulevard, Araneta Center, Cubao, QC.

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NEWLYWEDS Dino and Cara Salvador (nee Blardony)



SALVADOR-BLARDONY NUPTIALS

Taking the same path to the altar

CARA Blardony and Dino Salvador first met December 2001 through the bride's cousin during a small get-together in Makati. Their paths didn't cross again until three months later in Baguio, where their friendship blossomed into a romance.

As Cara would say in her vow to Dino: "the Lord made sure that we took the same path and I think it is for one reason, the reason that we were made for each other."

So in May 2003, Dino proposed to Cara, and after nine months of preparation, the couple sealed their love for each other early this year in a Christian wedding officiated by Pastor Alex

TAKING/H2



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Dear Ate,

I have a lot of secrets and I want to share them with you. I think I'm in love again. Hindi kay mister, love ko na yun dati pa. Iba ito. Iba siya. Mas pinasarap niya ang buhay ko.

CHEESY CALDERETA

Ingredients:

2 tbs. Star Margarine	2/3 cup Tomato sauce
1 tbs. Garlic, minced	1 Chili, chopped
1 kg. Monterey Beef Caldereta crust	2 tbs. Peanut butter
6 cups Water	1/4 cup Celery, sliced
1 tbs. Salt	3/4 cup MAGNOLIA QUICKMELT
1 tbs. Pepper	CHEESE, grated
1 piece Bayleaf	1/3 cup Whole olives (optional)
2 tbs. Tomato paste	1/2 cup Carrots, sliced

Procedure:

Saute garlic in butter. Add in the beef and stir fry just until brown. Pour in water, salt, pepper, and bayleaf. Simmer until the meat is tender. Add in tomato paste, tomato sauce, chili and peanut butter and cook for 5 minutes while stirring continuously to avoid lumps. Add grated cheese, celery, olives and carrots and simmer for another 5 minutes. Serve hot.

Makes 15 servings



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THE BRIDE with her parents, Alfonso and Cecilia Blardony



WITH the groom's parents, Diodado and Evelyn Salvador

Taking the same path to the altar

From page H1

Castillo, the groom's uncle and one of the couple's primary sponsors.

The other principal sponsors included Gerardo Ablaza, Emily Abrera, Paolo Castano, Elaine Cuneta, Christine Eustaquio, Roberto Claudio, Guilhermina Gabor, Gabriel Panillo, Socorro Paterno, Roman Santos, Lyn Venturina, Herbert Sy, Tess Wilson, Duc Trap and Corinne Yabut.

Standing as best man was Ruffy Santos, while the matron of honor was the bride's sister, Cynthia Uy. Bridesmaids were Monica Salvador and Kyle Sy, while the couple chose their close friends Christopher Server and Dylan Bernardo to be their Bible and ring bearers.

The groom is the only son of Johnson and Johnson-Asean Consumer Group president Diodado Salvador Jr. and Evelyn Claudio Salvador. The bride is the youngest daughter of restaurant owners Alfonso Blardony and Cecilia Pardo Blardony.

The ceremony and reception was held at the Le Pavilion tent, which was elegantly decorated by Jaume Santiago. He filled the place with palm trees, flowers, and candles, while All Media Productions orchestrated the lighting and sounds, providing a romantic and solemn mood for everyone.



The food was catered by La Nouva restaurant, which is owned by the bride's family. With the help of La' Opera restaurant, a six-course meal was served, to the delight of the guests.

WITH guests Mr. Salvador, Mr. and Mrs. Tito Pardo and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Sy

The couple looked very happy and relaxed throughout the whole evening. Cara was all smiles from the time she walked down the aisle right up to the reception's closing hours. Dino kept his composure throughout the ceremony, and provided his new bride a glimpse of the future by being a perfect gentleman throughout the night.



THE COUPLE with the bridal entourage

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo JAY WATCHING

ACROSS	44	Whale's home	83	Over there	DOWN	36	To a T	82	Perk up	
1	Chasms	46	"SOS" singers	90	Jewish feast	37	Neat — pin	83	Capote, for short	
6	Key with three sharps	50	Stare at	92	Dog dog	39	MO city	85	Lawn tool	
12	Good for more mileage, so to speak	51	Tennis shot	94	Name	40	School org.	86	Oklahoma city	
20	Sky-blue hue	52	Birth-related org.	95	Squeezes (out)	43	Vane dir.	87	Aids a felon	
21	Apiently	57	31 Down topping	97	Convened	45	"Acie" masses	91	Outer Prof.	
22	Principal ousting a student, e.g.	58	charmed lie (escaped hardship)	102	Golf peg	48	"Fame" singer David	93	Tiny bit	
23	Della dwellers who write hastily?	59	Fork prongs	104	Separated	49	Wheel bars	96	Acior	
25	De Niro-Notte film	60	beneficiary	107	Most tree-filled	53	Sap sucker	98	They speak	
26	de via (brandy)	61	Join	108	What a witty person sees things through?	54	Leopold's partner	100	Kind of airplane	
27	Plaything	62	Chirk prongs	112	Ho Chi	56	Total	101	Big name in ratings	
28	Medicine man	63	Say yes	113	Historic times	59	Mr. T's TV group	103	Actress Janna	
30	Blvd.	64	Chair-room chuckle	114	Group of dyes	61	Koranic faith	105	— Dee River	
31	Big kahuna	65	Old-fashioned computer	115	Strokes of luck	63	Place official	106	Reply	
34	Lyrical Gus	67	Faces slangily	116	Actor Charney	64	Franz Haydn	108	Worn out	
36	Doctoral by Jack's friend?	72	Deadly	117	Zero	66	Dental filling	109	Form of oxygen	
38	Snakebite victims' needs	73	Paste tumor	118	Wielder of shackles	67	— Boothe	110	Thicket	
40	50 Across part	74	Statement from an insect	119	Actress Bronnann	68	Blazing	111	Ancient letters	
41	LP successors	75	Excursion	125	Actress Bannan	70	"Wheel of Fortune" host	112	Roadhouse	
42	Wonderful short journeys?	76	Greek cheese	129	Boa	71	Phase	116	Song syllables	
		77	Joplin tune	130	Profundity	73	Waltel wad	118	Actress Chase	
		78	Chips in	131	Lots and plots	76	Sainted 6th-century pontiff	120	High peak	
				132	Ham — alternative	77	Raw sugar	122	Hasten	
					133	Horse	78	Trucking device	123	Winchover
					134	Fil for farming	80	Use as sustenance	124	Thus far
									125	Bulking dry
									126	Ship abbr.

answer on page D3

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the INQUIRER office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



RESTRIVERA-PAMESSA

Lailane Pamessa, daughter of Efren and Evelyn Pamessa, and Haris Restrivera, son of Reynaldo and Violeta Restrivera, will tie the knot on Sept. 19 at the Church of Nuestra Señora de Candelaria, Silang, Cavite.

Eric Pineda designed the bride's gown in ivory bridal satin. The princess-cut gown is mixed with a flesh-toned shoulder shrug and embellished with caviar beads, paillettes and faux pearls in an arabesque pattern. It has a detachable twin panel train head by hand-made cabbage roses. A 10-foot long veil of double width illusion tulle completes the ensemble.

Reception follows at the Pacific Parkplace Village.



CONSTANTINO-SEBASTIAN

Ariel D. Constantino, son of Edgar and Winefreda Constantino, will marry Rosalina Sebastian, daughter of Rodolfo and Carmencita Sebastian, on Sept. 18 at Santissimo Rosario Parish in the University of Santo Tomas. Reception will follow at the Multi-Purpose Hall, Camp Crame.

The gowns of the bride and entourage were created by Paul Rex Maren.

GOOFY CAKES

What started out as goofy characters meant to spoof the stereotypical stiff bride-and-groom toppers of long ago have evolved into Claycakes' very own Signature Toppers. Like the cakes, these are entirely edible, and may be customized—the goofier, the better! The Claycakes approach is very personalized. Each piece in its portfolio is an actual custom order. Claycakes takes a fresh approach for each client, so each design is distinct. Claycakes also makes personalized confections for debuts, baptisms, birthdays and other special occasions. Call 0917-9246032 or 6461739.



UY-ONG

Anna Liza Uy, daughter of Sergio and Anastasia Uy, will wed Rafael Joaquin Ong, son of Theodore Salvador and Rebecca Ong, on Sept. 26 at the St. Francis of Assisi Chapel. The bride will wear an off-white duchess satin gown with ice pink cut-glass beads, minute pearls and crystals, designed by Jonue and Nicky Martinez of Galatea.

Pilgrim image on year-long visit to Manila parishes

THE PILGRIM image of Nuestra Señora de Guia that left the Ermita Church last Sept. 7 for the arzobispado will not be back until Aug. 15, 2005. By then, she will have visited all the parishes of the archdiocese of Manila.

From the arzobispado, the image was brought to the Manila Cathedral for the ordination of a deacon on the morning of Sept. 8, then later to the Central Bank where she was welcomed by numerous devotees.

From Central Bank, she was brought for a three-day stay at San Agustin, the oldest church in the Philippines, which ends today. The visits are part of the year-long celebration of the Eucharistic Marian Year, which was launched at the Ermita Church on Aug. 14 by Bishop Teodoro Bacani. Fr. Sanny de Claro, parish priest, and other priests concelebrated.

Manila's patroness

The Archbishop of Manila is using the pilgrim image of the Nuestra Señora de Guia for the Eucharistic Marian Year because she is the patroness of Manila. The original image was found in 1571 on the site where the church now stands, by a Spanish soldier in the contingent of the Adelantado, Miguel Lopez de Legazpi.

The soldier saw the image atop a pandan bush being venerated by natives. It is

the oldest Marian image in the Philippines.

The celebration of the Virgin's May 19 fiesta during the Spanish period was marked with pageantry. The *bata flores* was the traditional throwing of flowers at the Virgin's feet when her *carroza* passed old houses during processions.

Many miracles have been attributed to the Virgin. Fr. Sanny de Claro is now collating testimonies that would be submitted to the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) as part of efforts to make the Ermita church into a national shrine.

Testimonies can be sent to Fr. de Claro c/o Nuestra Señora de Guia Parish, M. H. del Pilar St., Ermita, Manila or fax 5232754.

Fluvial parade

The Metro Manila devotees of Our Lady of Peñafrancia will hold a fluvial procession at 3 p.m. today from the Guadalupe bridge in Makati to Jones Bridge in Manila, where she will be met by female devotees who will carry the image to the Manila Cathedral for the 6 p.m. Mass. Bishop Nestor Cariño, auxiliary bishop of the diocese of Daet, will officiate in the concelebrated Mass.

For the eighth year, the group of Sis. Gloria Gelva is going on a pilgrimage by bus to Naga City for the fiesta of Our Lady of Peñafrancia on Sept. 18-19. Those interested can text Sis. Gloria at 0919-

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang



6773544 or call 5311710; call Bro. Roger Manaoag at 5319918; or text Sis. Teasing Cabahug at 0927-2203042.

Parish needs help

Fr. Kit Mendoza, SSS, is asking for help in the repair of the Blessed Sacrament Parish in Tigbau, Tacloban City. He wrote:

"This parish was canonically erected last Aug. 1. (It) used to be a shrine for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament built by an SVD priest in 1979. When he died, the Diocesan Clergy administered this place... the Blessed Sacrament Congregation has taken over its administration since 1997. Since the nature of the place has greatly changed, there is... need for space and for development.

"The church needs repainting badly... (but) there is no money... the parish must expand and renovate the present small convent to (have) rooms for seminarians, conferences, meetings... (and) a bigger Adoration Chapel so the Blessed Sacrament (does) not (have to) be moved back and forth... during Sunday Masses or when the church is used for weddings or funerals.

"As of now, the parish consists of eight barrios populated mainly by poor people. In fact, the monthly collection amounts only to about P10,000... not even enough for its maintenance...

"I really hope that through you, funds will be available for the above-mentioned projects. God, who knows the extent of your good deeds, will reward you with His abundant blessings. Rest assured that your intentions will also be remembered."

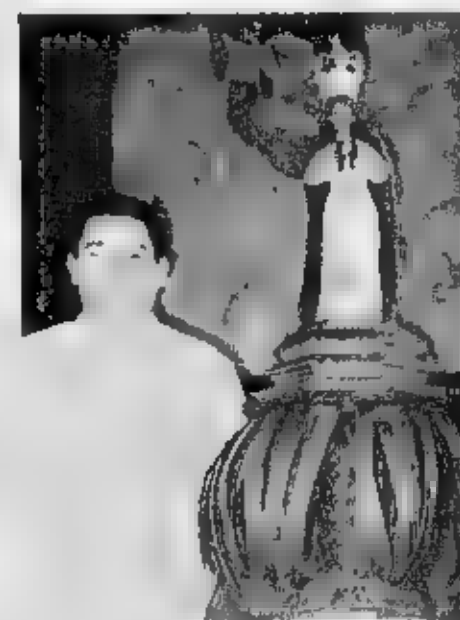
Those who wish to help can deposit their donations to savings account No. 0185-93010-6 in any Equitable-PCI Bank. You can write to Fr. Kit Mendoza, SSS, at Blessed Sacrament Parish, Maharlika Highway, 6500 Tacloban City or call (053) 3236160.

Marian Congress

The Immaculate Conception Parish in Dasmariñas, Cavite, hosted the Diocesan Marian Congress Sept. 3-4 that marked the 150th anniversary of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

Imus Bishop Luis Antonio Tagle joined the para-liturgical services at 6 p.m., Sept. 3, that was participated in by some 1,000 members of the Adoracion Nocturna and the Apostleship of Prayer of the diocese. A grand procession of Marian images was held at 12 midnight, followed by a dawn Mass.

On Sept. 4, delegates from various parishes in the diocese of Imus held different congresses, with bishops as speak-



ERMITA parish priest Fr. Sanny de Claro with pilgrim image of Nuestra Señora de

Bishop Bacani was the speaker in the Marian rally at the church plaza, while Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Rosales officiated at the 5 p.m. concelebrated Mass in the Immaculate Conception Church.

Marian exhibit

Sra. Ana church held a Marian exhibit at the *camarin* of the church last Sept. 8, birthday of the Virgin Mary.

Pampanga holds wedding fair

PAMPANGA and Manila designers showcased recently their collections in "Cruisin'... the Weddings of Asia Bridal & Debutante's Fair 2004" at Holiday Inn Clark.

Designs of Glen Canlas, Frederick Policarpio, Julius Tarog, Ramon Esteban and Raoul Ramirez were featured. Participating make-

up artists were Jinky Ilusorio and Namnam Naidas. Pampanga's most talented floral arrangers, cake specialists, musicians, wedding photographers/videographers participated.

Holiday Inn Clark is a popular choice for Metro Manila residents who want a wedding away from metropolis. Visit www.holiday-inn.com/hotels/clarkfield



SOME 150 exhibitors joined Edsa Shangri-La Manila's recent annual bridal fair, "Wedding Celebrations 2005." Photo shows Vanessa Suatengco, resident manager; Gary Estrada and Bernadette Allyson with their daughter; Patrick Paez and Daphne Oseña; Kristine Gonzales (daughter of Mandaluyong Mayor Boyet Gonzales) with fiancé Rodney Torres; and ESL general manager Wolfgang Krueger at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

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Special Reserved Seats at P2,000.00

IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE



Nike has decided to voluntarily recall its "Get-Go" and "Little Get-Go" children's shoes. The rubber heel tab at the top of the heel could be pulled off, posing a choking hazard for young children.

The recalled "Get-Go" and "Little Get-Go" shoes were sold in retail stores between June and August 2004. They can be identified by their six-digit style numbers, which are found on the white label that are affixed onto the lining of the shoe, just above the UPC barcode. The six-digit style numbers which were recalled are 308638 and 308647.

Consumers can immediately return these products to the retailer they were purchased from for a full refund or exchange.

For more information about this recall, please contact Nike at 848-9851 up to 70 local 216, Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm.





What Manila needs now are trees, more trees

THE NEWS that a construction crew from the National Housing Authority (NHA) had bulldozed over 6,000 trees in the garden and nursery of the Manila Seedling Bank Foundation (MSBF) in Quezon City saddened a lot of people, not just environmentalists.

While the NHA argued that MSBF people were informed of the NHA takeover (the land is government property after all), the bulldozing seemed like the execution of innocents. No wonder editors of this paper called it a "massacre."

Fresh air needed

To cut down trees and replace them with man-made structures (a NHA spokesperson described the project as "mixed use commercial area and bus terminal") is as heartrending as losing loved ones in tragic circumstances. At the rate trees are being cut down in Metro Manila, it would be no surprise to find, one day, that the National Capital Region has become as arid as a desert and the air too polluted for anybody's health.

And yet, if any place in this country needs

SEEING GREEN

Doris Gaskell Nuyda



invigorating fresh air, it's Metro Manila.

Ester Perez de Tagle's report, "Blueprint for Blue Skies," informs us that Metro Manila air is so dirty, it is dangerous to our health. She should know. She is the founding chair of Concerned Citizens Against Pollution (Cocap), past chair of three other clean air organizations—Sub-Committee on Atmosphere of the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD), Lead-Free Coalition and Partnerships for Clean Air.

Her report explains that the danger to human health is caused principally by vehicle emissions. She says, while the Clean Air Act provides a comprehensive air pollution management program, its implementation is flawed. She urges the use of alternative fuels,



TO CUT down trees and replace them with man-made structures is as heartrending as losing loved ones in tragic circumstances.

particularly coco-biodiesel, which is cheap and easily available. Its use can also help revive our coconut industry and free us from dependence on fossil fuels.

Urban reforestation

In the face of this big problem, she looks to trees for solution. She suggests that the government embark on a serious and extensive urban reforestation program to clean the air. "Metro Manila," she says, "with its large human and motor population, badly needs trees, especially since thoughtless public officials like to cut them 'in the name of progress and development.'"

Her words were prophetic, for just a few weeks ago we got the news of the bulldozed trees. It seems a lot of people equate progress with the proliferation of high-rise buildings and malls and concrete structures, forgetting humans' other needs—like clean air.

The world standard for urban quality of life, continues De Tagle's report, is fresh, clean air. And all it takes to assure this is to have one tree for every four persons, or two mature trees to produce enough oxygen for 20 people. The figures do not include trees in watersheds or nature reserves. It is important, therefore, not to allow any government policy and public or private projects that run counter to these accepted environmental standards.

Global warming defense

Furthermore, it has been shown that in the fight against pollution, "wayside trees play a very important role" because motor vehicle emissions are concentrated on roads. De Tagle repeats what should be common knowledge by now: Wayside trees "replenish dirty air with the life-giving oxygen they produce, while absorbing the different air pollutants including the carbon dioxide that causes global warming."

Her studies also show that, when planting trees in urban areas, it is much better to use pavers instead of concrete. Pavers are brick-like devices used like flagstones for sidewalks and walkways. They are laid out loosely on the area to be "paved" to allow rainwater to seep underground and feed the tree roots.

These are the basic facts that our city officials with a propensity for tree-cutting should keep in mind, De Tagle says. As a final reminder, she sums up the report's message in one sentence: "Clean fuels, clean engines and trees suited to our land and resources, plus a strong political will to push things through for those front-end (as against end-of-pipe) solutions are the keys to achieving clean air."

We hope the tree-cutters in our midst get this message.

E-mail the author at dorisnuyda@yahoo.com

Development project is the delight of birdwatchers

THE WILD Bird Club of the Phils. (WBCP) went bird-watching recently at the Leisure Farms hobby farming and agri-tourism community in Lemery, Batangas.

Led by founder Mike Lu, the WBCP accompanied by members of the Leisure Farms team, explored the 123.5-ha property. On its third visit to Leisure Farms, the group saw the White-eared Brown Dove, Pacific Swallow, Black-naped Oriole, White-breasted Wood Swallow, Elegant Tit, Philippine Coucal and Philippine Pygmy Woodpecker, among others.

The WBCP has now seen 38 species of birds, 10 of which are native to the Philippines like the White-collared Kingfisher, Coppermouthed Barbet, Olive-backed Sunbird and Lowland White-eye.

Also spotted were the Blue-tailed Bee Eater and Blue-throated Bee-eater, the only bee-eaters native to the Philippines.

Nela Natividad of Leisure Farms' business development team said the development project was planning activities for lot owners with the WBCP, which says the best time for birdwatching is early morning or late afternoon.

Landco Pacific Corp., which owns Leisure Farms, is a multi-product development company. Call 8072232 local 387 or 375, or visit www.leisurefarms.com.

Visit the WBCP website at www.bird-watch.ph.

Here's an amazing breakthrough that lets you show off your skin! New Vaseline Skin Solutions Mark Minimizer. With continued daily use, its special Alpha-Lipids visibly reduces stretchmarks, blemishes, fine lines, dark marks and dryness in just 8 weeks. Pag hindi halata, hindi ka nahihiyal!

Minimize your marks





To Lolo and Lola, with Love

Grandparents Day

Keeping the elderly healthy growing concern for doctors worldwide

GENEVA--Keeping old people in good shape is one of the biggest challenges facing the health sector with the number of people aged 60 and above expected to top 1 billion by 2025, the World Health Organization said Monday.

Launching an initiative to boost the standards of basic care for senior citizens, the United Nations' health body warned that doctors globally are ill-prepared to deal with the rapidly aging society.

"WHO has recognized the critical role primary health care centers play in the health of older people worldwide," said Catherine Le Gales-Camus, assistant director general at WHO's noncommunicable diseases and mental health unit.

"Supporting older people to remain healthy and ensure a good quality of life in their later years is one of the greatest challenges of the health sector in all countries," she said in a statement.

Today's 600 million people aged 60 years and over is forecast to hit more than 1 billion

by 2025 and reach 2 billion by 2050, WHO said, noting that the longer a person lives the more likely they will catch a chronic disease.

Silvia Peril Levin, a technical officer at WHO involved in the aging project, explained that surgeries and clinics in rich and poor countries are not traditionally trained to deal with an increasing number of grey patients.

"In the end, more doctors will end up dealing with older persons and the problem is that most of the centers don't know how to cope with this increase in older persons," she told AFP.

The initiative -- Towards Age-Friendly Primary Health Care -- is designed to help improve training and provide information on the needs of the elderly who are more susceptible to illnesses such as cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and Alzheimer's, WHO said.

Failure to tackle such illnesses early leads to more time and resources spent on helping elderly people, possibly at the expense of children and other priority patients, it added.

The health body ultimately aims to establish a set of minimum standards to determine how well surgeries treat elderly patients.

The initiative was launched at a global conference on aging that is being held in Singapore. AFP



Illustrations by Aliza Buihong

Lalong sumasarap tumanda kapag ganito karami ang biyaya.



Happy Grandparents' Day po
mula sa Jollibee!





A more senior citizen-friendly society

NOW, LOLO and Lola not only can expect a helping hand from society to help them cross the street, they now enjoy a windfall of discounts and special services for the rest of their lives.

In February this year, a new law for senior citizens aged 60 and above was passed. Under Republic Act 9257, or the Expanded Senior Citizen's Act, Filipino senior citizens can expect to enjoy more benefits from various

private and public entities.

Now, public and private institutions are instructed by the new law to extend 50-percent discounts to senior citizens.

The Department of Education also offers educational assistance to the elderly who are still qualified to pursue courses.

Aside from educational and health services, benefits now include funeral and burial services, requiring mortuaries to ex-

tend discounts. The new law also requires business establishments and local government units to establish dedicated lanes for the elderly.

The new law now covers even senior citizens with no income. In order for any senior citizen to avail himself or herself of the benefits provided by RA 9257, the individual should present any valid identification card indicating his or her date of birth.

Herbal supplements that help promote proper blood circulation

CHOLESTE-Redux and Banaba-Ampalaya, two new herbal supplements from Better Herbs that are available at Watson's Personal Health Care Store, can be of help in controlling our blood pressure and blood sugar.

Choleste-Redux, a supplement made from 100-percent extract of garlic, is specifically formulated to promote proper blood circulation. Garlic has been studied worldwide for its significant effect on blood pressure of hypertensive patients.

Clinical studies confirm that on top of being a "vasodilator" (softening blood ves-

sels), garlic can also lower cholesterol and triglyceride level. It also promotes blood fluidity in order to facilitate healthy blood circulation in order to prevent stroke and heart attack. Choleste-Redux is an ideal supplement for hypertensive patients and those who would like to stay away from hypertension.

For diabetics, Better Herbs has Banaba-Ampalaya. Based on recent studies in Japan, Banaba has been discovered to possess plant insulin called corosolic acid, which has been proven to control blood sug-

ar level. This discovery was combined with charantin, the active ingredient that controls blood sugar in Ampalaya. Together, this combination provides the most potent supplement in the market today that helps regulate blood sugar. And at 750mg per tablet, it is the most affordable supplement for diabetics on a per milligram basis.

For more information about Choleste-Redux and Banaba Ampalaya herbal food supplement, call (02)721-4376 or (02)723-4376. Text (0918) 934-9347 or visit www.betterherbsinc.com.

Grandparents' Weekend at Power Plant Mall

POWER Plant Mall at Rockwell remembers the two most important "senior" members of the family—no, not our parents—but the fun loving, doting couple we call our grandparents through Power Plant Mall's "Grandparents' Weekend".

During the mall hours of Sept. 11 and 12 (Saturday and Sunday), Power Plant will celebrate Grandparent's Day for an entire weekend with a string of activities guaranteed to make Lolo and Lola feel truly special.

Grandparents residing in Bel-Air 1, 3, 4 and Palm Village will be shuttled from their respective homes to Power Plant Mall and back. Members of the family are welcome to join their grandparents and enjoy a ride in Rockwell's shuttle service while helping themselves to refreshments provided.

From Sept. 6 to 12, the North and South

Courts of the mall will be groomed in an ambient lounge-like setting with Designer Blooms' attractive flower arrangements on comfy sofas and chairs courtesy of Play & Display and Maco KÜchen. Coffee expert Figaro and the popular Café Mediterranean will have kiosks to complete the cozy atmosphere.

On Sept. 12, crooner and pianist Ria Villena-Osorio will serenade Grandpa, Grandma and the entire family at the North Court of the mall with '50s, '60s and '70s tunes. Her enchanting voice together with a hot cup of perfectly blended cappuccino will positively warm the heart and ease the soul of every grand peré.

For a minimum purchase of P500 (single receipt only), grandparents are entitled to "Pick-a-Prize" at the customer care desk located at the North Court of the mall on

Sept. 12. Prizes up for grabs will vary from gifts to gift certificates from Anna Pashmina, Fully Booked, Shiseido, Marks and Spencer, J.F. Lazard, Sarabia Optical, True Value, Lush, Health & Beyond, cinema passes from Power Plant Cinema and free games from Power Bowl.

Also on Sept. 12, special treats will be given to grandparents who dine in selected food and beverage establishments in Power Plant Mall.

For a minimum purchase of P500 (single receipt only), grandparents are entitled to 'Pick-a-Prize' at the customer care desk located at the North Court of the mall on Sept. 12. Prizes up for grabs will vary from gifts to gift certificates from Anna Pashmina, Fully Booked, Shiseido, Marks and Spencer, J.F. Lazard, Sarabia Optical, True Value, Lush, Health & Beyond, cinema passes from Power Plant Cinema and free games from Power Bowl

Grandparents Day at SM

IT'S NOW our turn to treat Grandpa and Grandma to fun activities as the SM Supermalls celebrates Grandparents Day this September.

Make this a special day with a special keepsake from SM Department Store or any of the mall's exciting shops, treat them to their restos, and join them in mall events planned with them in mind.

Have a souvenir photo take with Lolo and Lola at the "Grandparents Photo Op" with Mitsubishi, Konika, VX Film, Kameraworld, and Fuji Film. Every P300 single receipt purchase entitles one to join. Photo op is scheduled today, Sept. 12 at SM Megamall, and at SM City Manila, SM Supercenter Sucat, SM City Bicutan, SM City Sta. Mesa, SM Southmall, SM City Bacoor, as well as the provincial malls.

One is never too old to be cool. Let them join or watch SM Supermalls' "Nationwide Search for the Singing Lolo and Lola". Winners will be given great prizes from Wow Magic Sing Premium, Slimmer's World, Canon, YKL, Fuji Film, Mitsubishi, Konica, iOreal, Star Records and Banco de Oro.

There's even more fun for swinging seniors at the "Ballroom Dancing with Grandparents" event. Let Lolo and Lola dance the night away tonight at SM City Fairview, SM Southmall and SM City Bacoor.

Make it a family day by "Reminiscing Kundiman Songs with our Grandparents". It's a great way for them to look back on Filipino love songs of their time. This will be scheduled today at SM Supercenter Sucat and SM City Fairview on Sept. 27.

It's a blast from the past as many ageless celebrity entertainers bring their music to the malls. This "Tribute to Grandparents" will feature rocker RJ Jacinto today at SM Supercenter Sucat, and Oldies But Goodies at SM City Sta. Mesa.

It's also a time for dynamite divas Pilita Corrales today at SM City North Edsa and Josephine Gomez at SM Megamall.

Soulful comedienne Elizabeth Ramsey will bring on great music and great laughs today at SM City Sta. Mesa and SM City Bicutan.

The young at heart and the folksy will enjoy the music of Florante de Leon at SM City Manila. Jimmy Fabregas will also perform today at SM City Fairview.

CATCH Pilita Corrales on Grandparents Day at SM City North Edsa Sept. 12



ELIZABETH Ramsey livens up SM City Sta. Mesa and Bicutan today



FLORANTE strums his stuff at SM City Manila today



Yurakuen offers best of no-rush Japanese dining

THIS DAY dedicated to our grandparents, it is but appropriate that we seek respite from the daily grind. The family could use a break from the work pattern so we can treat our Lolas and Lolas to a meal they can indulge themselves in. It is through this ritual that we nourish both minds and body, and strengthen bonds among family members.

At Yurakuen, we are afforded that precious moment. There are no practiced Japanese greetings repeatedly said in chorus to jolt our senses. Instead, we are greeted by a hushed surrounding that sets the mood for a most quiet pleasurable meal. We leave our worries and deadlines right at its doorstep as we are silently ushered into its well-appointed interiors.

Once inside, a deep sense of calm takes over as we seat ourselves and soak in Yurakuen's sedate ambience. Floor-to-ceiling windows look out into a lush garden. Setting our sights farther down we see the waters of Manila Bay. The hurried pace of the traffic outside melts into a fluid motion and for a brief period of time we forget about meetings we have to attend to and deadlines we have to beat.

It is then that we are ready to feast on Yurakuen's famous Japanese cuisine—simple to the point of being exquisite. One can choose for the more enter-

taining Teppanyaki dining in the many private rooms lining up the walls leading to the main dining room. It is here where highly trained Teppanyaki chefs slice, chop and cook your meal right in front of you to make for an artful and delicious dining experience.

A sampling of Yurakuen's dishes starts off with salmon sashimi that melts in your mouth. Complementing the milky freshness of the salmon is genuine wasabi that sensationally explodes into an otherworldly flavor along with the mildly tangy Japanese soy sauce.

Yurakuen also boasts of an unagi dish that combines the rich flavor of a paté with an appetizing texture that is crisp on the outside but tender on the inside. The cooking process is what makes the eel both crisp and tender. The eels are first grilled over hot charcoals. When unagi is grilled over charcoals, the fat from unagi drips and burns, causing smoke. The smoke adds great flavor to unagi. It is then steamed to remove excess fat, then seasoned with a sweetish sauce and grilled a second time. This dish alone makes Yurakuen a place worth your precious time.

Yurakuen is located at the ground floor of Manila Diamond Hotel. For reservations, call 528-3000 local 1119 or 1521.



Mobility key to fit aging

WASHINGTON because you're 75, you shouldn't have trouble lifting a bag of groceries or getting up from a chair. But for millions of older Americans, those simple activities are a daily struggle.

Disabling frailty doesn't have to be part of aging. In fact, studies have found that even 90-year-olds can rebuild lost muscle with some careful exercise.

It would be better to never become so frail in the first place, and researchers have come up with a way to help: Fitness performance standards to let anyone 60 and older assess quickly if they're in good physical condition for their age, or if they're at risk of a downhill slide that could lead to a nursing home.

"Our main interest is in keeping people mobile and staying physically independent as long as possible," said Roberta Rikli, a professor at California State University, Fullerton. She led a study of 7,000 Americans ages 60 to 94 that established the standards.

If the tests signal you're at risk of becoming too frail, "we can do something to try to prevent that," she said. The exercise tests are simple enough that many people could try them at home, and senior centers around the country are starting to use them.

Frailty is a huge risk of aging. By age 70, most people have at least 20 percent less muscle than they did at age 30. About 70 percent of elderly women are too frail to lift just 10 pounds, and 60 percent cannot perform such household work as vacuuming. About 35 percent of men are equally frail.

Some of the muscle deterioration may be inevitable. But Rikli says at least half is due to people becoming more sedentary with age, meaning that keeping active is important if you want healthy retirement years.

Rikli and colleague C. Jessie Jones studied

some 7,000 Americans over 60 who live independently. They performed such simple tests as:

- How many times in 30 seconds they could rise from a straight-backed chair without using their arms to push themselves up. That measures lower body strength.

- How many times in 30 seconds they could lift a weight-5 pounds for women, 8 pounds for men in a "bicep curl" that measures upper body strength.

- How many yards they could walk in six minutes, to measure aerobic fitness.

- How long it took them to rise from a chair, walk 8 feet and return to a seated position, to measure mobility.

The study, funded by a Medicare HMO provider, set standards for fitness levels that are normal, below average, or so low that people are at risk of needing a nursing home.

Say an 80-year-old woman could stand up from a chair without pushing off 10 times in 30 seconds. That's normal for that age. But doing only 10 of these "chair stands" at age 60 is below average and while people at that level may function okay right now, they're at big risk of losing mobility by age 75.

Rikli found that fitness declined with age on average 1 percent a year. She advised people to track whether they're declining faster than normal, or if exercise is paying off and they're improving. Regardless of age, people who got moderate physical activity at least three times a week have been the most fit.

Some doctors already use similar but ex-



perimental tests to assess elderly patients' limitations. "They're very powerful predictors" of who will wind up disabled, said Dr. Jack Guralnik of the National Institute on Aging, a pioneer of the studies.

Rikli wants such assessments to reach more older Americans. She hopes to have easy-to-read consumer brochures available to illustrate the tests and show how to measure anyone's fitness level against the national standards.

"That's an excellent idea," said Guralnik. "The more people are aware of their level of functioning, the more they can tune into the fact that they need to exercise." Already, some of the 267 senior centers that participated in Rikli's study are using the fitness assessments. She will advertise the consumer brochures in publications targeted to older Americans once they're complete. But instead of waiting, senior centers or doctors could simply check April's edition of the Journal of Aging and Physical Activity for the study results. AP

More stories on Grandparents Day on pages D6 & D7



Matamis na ngiti ni Lola... matikas na tindig ni Lolo...
malinis, magandang kalooban...



Marami pang mga katangian na dapat nating ipagpasalamat sa kanila

Dr. P

A Grandparents' Day Message from the No.1 Adult Diaper.

Pinagkakatiwalaan kahit kailan.



Get a SMART Kid SIM,
and give your child a



Also get your 12th month billing for FREE!

Enjoy great freebies when you get a SMART Kid SIM for your child!

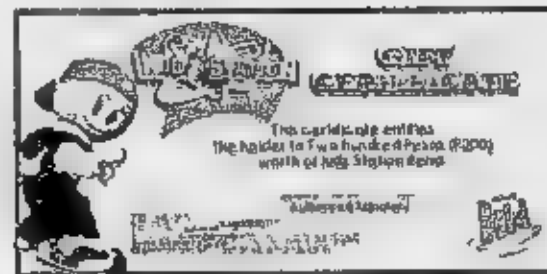
IT'S SO EASY TO JOIN!

1. Promo is open to new SMART Kid postpaid SIM card subscribers (Plan 300 or Plan 600). To avail of SMART Kid SIM pack, parent/guardian must be a postpaid subscriber (SMART Gold/SMART Infinity/Addict Mobile).
2. New SIM subscriber must pay the monthly service fee (MSF) for the first month upfront (P300 for Plan 300; P600 for Plan 600).
3. After the 5th month, subscriber will be given a Kidz Station Gift Certificate depending upon the plan availed (P200 worth of GC for Plan 300; P600 worth of GC for Plan 600), provided that the SMART Kid postpaid account is still active.
4. The MSF for the 12th month is FREE.
5. New SIM subscriber must accomplish the following:
 - a. pay the monthly service fee (MSF) for the 1st month upfront;
 - b. submit proof of identification (POI) and proof of billing (POB); and
 - c. sign up for a 12-month contract
6. Promo good from September 11 - 30, 2004.

Kidz Station Rockwell - 2nd Level Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati • Kidz Station Glorietta - 2nd Level Glorietta IV, Ayala Center, Makati • Kidz Station Festival Mall - 3rd Level Festival Supermall, Alabang, Muntinlupa • Kidz Station Shangri-la - 4th Level Shangri-la EDSA Plaza Mall, Mandaluyong City • Kidz Station Alabang Town Center - 4th Level Alabang Town Center, Alabang Muntinlupa

See flyers for details. Promo duration: Sept. 11 - 30, 2004. Per DTI-MCI, Permit No. 4370, Series of 2004.

For questions, comments or concerns, you may call SMART Hotline at 888-1111, send a text message to 888 (P1.00 per message sent in excess of the FREE TEXT allocation), e-mail us at smartkid@smart.com.ph, or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you. For further details, you may call our SMART Kid Sales Hotline at 848-8882.



*Kidz Station Gift Certificate.
Value of free GC depends on plan availed of.



SMART
Simply Amazing!

Canon IN THREE BIG STEPS

A DRUMROLL FOR CANON'S LATEST INNOVATIONS

THE last quarter of the year promises you a torrent of innovations from technology giant Canon. You will definitely not think twice about gearing up with Canon's newest trendy printer brand, PIXMA, and its latest digital cameras and video cameras that offer a windfall of exciting possibilities.

Because on top of the expected technological spin that these latest Canon products have been given, they are by far some of the most creative executions that you will see in a long, long time. As Canon unleashes this assortment of innovations, consumers can look forward to a life made even better—beautifully better.



PREMIUM PRINTING WITH PIXMA

Headlining these revolutionary products is PIXMA, Canon's answer to the harks and calls for a new generation of photo and document printers, following a years-long

dearth of anything close to genuinely revolutionary in the market.

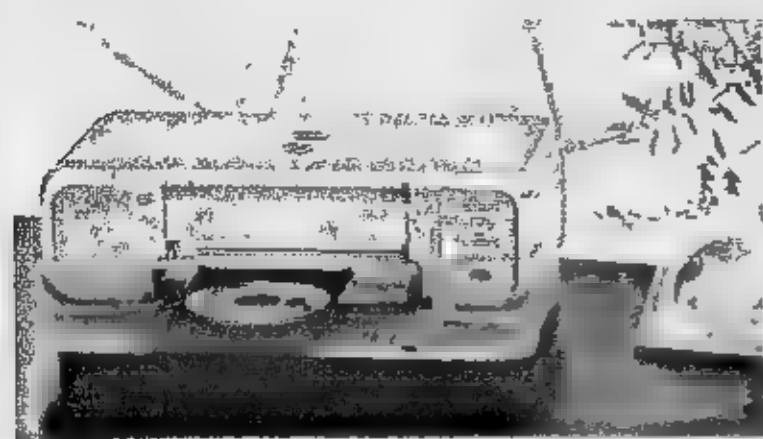
Style and efficiency are the hallmarks of these products. Eight printer models make up the series that promise speed and unparalleled output quality—the iP3000, iP4000, iP5000, iP6000D, iP8500, iP1000, iP1500, and the iP2000.

Designed to "redefine the printing experience," the PIXMA Series employs the combination of three types of the Canon "DNA". Each of these products is infused with the best technology from Canon's reputed cameras, copiers, and bubble jet technology. The results are astounding, depending on the PIXMA model of your choice—high speed and unmatched resolution, ability to print on both sides of your paper, on CDs and DVDs, direct printing from a variety of image devices, paper cassette trays, 2-way paper-feeding, ink technology that can be used without wastage, wireless printing, photo editing, and more.

For users who want to do more than simple printing of their images, the PIXMA range of printers is also supplied with the PhotoRecord software, which makes it simple to create unique and highly personalized photo albums. Users can select from a variety of templates to create their photo album, and customize the look with attractive clip-art, photo frames and text. Used in conjunction with the automatic duplex feature, creating a personal photo album is a breeze!

Then there's the software that allows for more printing possibilities. Canon came up with user-friendly software that makes printing fun and easy. Now, even printing an entire photo collection is possible, making traditional photo albums a thing of the past.

But why stop there when it's gone far enough? Canon has gone further by developing special photo papers especially for PIXMA users. It now offers double-sided photo paper to use on the automatic duplex feature of the PIXMA series, glossy paper and high-resolution inkjet paper.

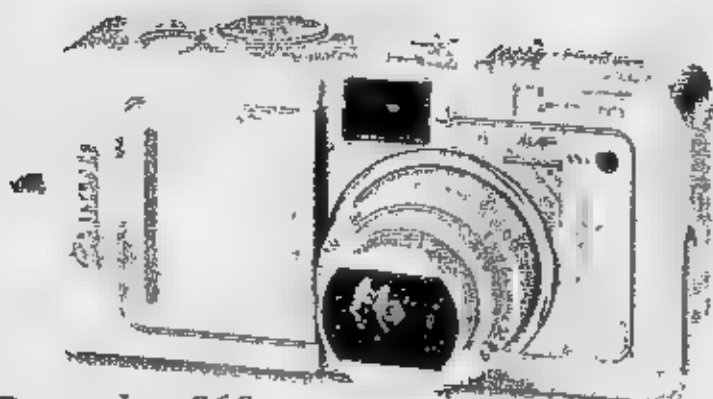


iP3000



iP8500

POWER AND BEAUTY IN THE NEW POWERSHOT S60 AND S70



Powershot S60

Since their introduction, Canon PowerShot S series digital cameras have had a look and style all their own, with outstanding features and performance housed in an elegant self-casing body equally suited to business travel or personal imaging.

This heritage continues with the new PowerShot S60 and S70.

The PowerShot S60 delivers the same unmistakable look, a lighter and slimmer body design, plus enhanced features and user-friendly controls that make it the most powerful digital camera anyone can put in a pocket.

Besides its distinctive new styling, the PowerShot S60 features a 5.3 megapixel CCD with primary colour filters, DIGIC imaging processor, and a new 3.6x optical zoom lens that delivers true wide-angle

performance—equivalent to a 28-100mm lens in 35mm format—with improved Macro shooting capability. The PowerShot S60 also features our new Print/Share button that makes printing one or all captured photos push-button simple.

Exciting accessories include a new Tele-converter lens that extends the powerful zoom range to 200mm and a new underwater case that allows shooting at depths as great as 40 meters. A special "underwater" white balance setting assures brilliant and lifelike colours whether you're shooting coral or finding Nemo.

Joining the line of Canon's PowerShot S series is the **black beauty with 7.1 megapixel—the PowerShot S70**. Together with its metallic silver partner, the PowerShot S60, this duo offers advanced features and versatility renowned in the S-series cameras.

Like all previous models, the PowerShot S70 is powered by Canon's exclusive DIGIC imaging processor and iSAPS technology for optimal image quality and speed.

Besides having a higher resolution CCD of 7.1 megapixel, PowerShot S70 is also equipped with all the distinguished features found in PowerShot S60. It could support still image recording of up to 3072 x 2304 pixels. What's more - the users can now select from **one more recording pixel setting (M3)**.

The new PowerShot S70 also incorporates a powerful 3.6x optical zoom and wide-angle UA lens performance of 28-100mm—now one can capture a wider perspective in a single frame. In addition to the high-end performance, consumers can also enjoy fun photography with creative features such as the **Print/Share button, ID Photo print and Movie Print**.

The PowerShot S series is always seen as "sandwiched between" the high-end G-series and IXUS/A-series. For consumers who want high performance functions with compact design, the S series will be the perfect choice.



Powershot S70

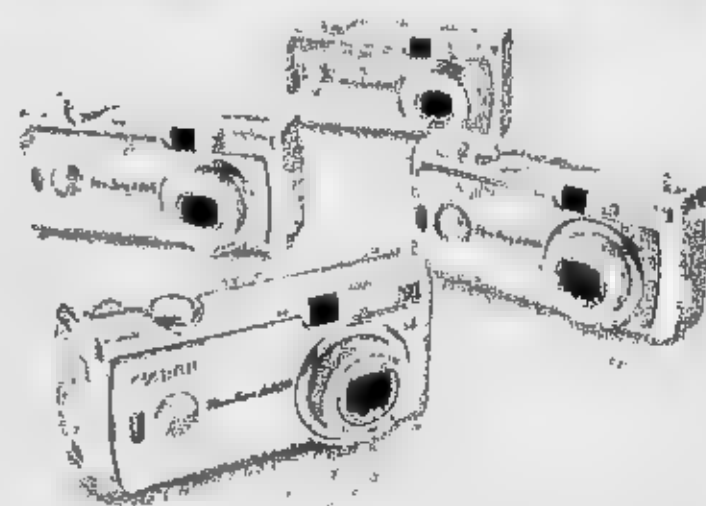
Canon's Digital Innovation IN THREE BIG STEPS.

Go Snap Crazy with the PowerShot A400

For the hip, young, and trendy, taking pictures has just become a lot more fun with the PowerShot A400. This latest addition to Canon's flexible line-up of PowerShot digital cameras comes in Silver, Sky Blue, Spring Green, and a very unique Sunset Gold—four distinctive colors to suit every gender and personality.

Stylish yet affordable, the PowerShot A400 is destined to be carried around, slipped into pockets, and proudly brandished like the hottest, new fashion accessory. The funky yet compact design suits the active lifestyles of young adults while its practical and functional features address their ever-growing demands.

With 3.2 megapixels and 3.2x digital zoom, the PowerShot A400 also boasts of a high quality 2.2x optical zoom lens—a breakthrough in its class. Equipped with 11x combined digital zoom and amazing features, the PowerShot A400



Canon



- 3.2 megapixel CCD 2.2x optical zoom
- 3.2x digital zoom 9-point AiAF
- SD card slot Optional all-weather case
- Print/Share button Powered by DIGIC

POWERED BY
DIGIC

surpasses the other brands in the same price range. Making use of an SD Multimedia card also allows the PowerShot A400 to be 10% lighter and 11% smaller than its predecessor, thus securing a place for the PowerShot A400 in the list of must-have gadgets.

Sensational, professional-like images

Amazing first time digital camera users and satisfying even experienced consumers will not be a problem with the twelve shooting modes packed in these little wonders.

Throw all worries to the wind while shooting in Automatic mode and allow DIGIC—Canon's exclusive digital imaging processor—intelligently and efficiently calculate the right settings given current lighting conditions. Or play around and harness your creativity with the Manual mode, empowering you to create artsy, highly imaginative photos.

Don't fail to capture exquisite panoramic views with the Stitch Assist mode, which allows you to horizontally stitch together separate photos into a single, panoramic picture. Other scene presets include Night Scene, Fireworks, Underwater, and Indoor.

Photo printing made easy

In line with Canon's quest to provide a full image input and output solution for home printing enjoyment, the PowerShot A400 can also be used with Canon's line of portable Card Photo (CP) Printers. Using the PowerShot A400's ID Photo/Movie Print features, ID pictures in 28 adjustable sizes as well as sequences of movie frames can be directly printed without the use of a computer.

This is made possible by Pictbridge—one of Canon's latest breakthroughs in digital imaging. By simply connecting the PowerShot A400 to a CP Printer or any Pictbridge-compatible bubble jet printer and pressing the purpose-built Print/Share button in the camera, you can have high quality photos developed in a flash. When connected to the computer, on the other hand, pictures automatically download with a single press of the Print/Share button. Clearly, immediate satisfaction and high-powered performance are results of combining Canon's expertise in printing and optics technologies.

All you need

As a delightful bonus, the PowerShot A400 can also take moving pictures up to 3 minutes of continuous shooting, complete with sound recording and playback. Given adequate memory capacity, several 3-minute movie clips may be taken to ensure that momentous occasions will not pass unrecorded. Editing or cutting these video clips are also possible in-camera, no need for highly technical and expensive computer accessories and applications.

Further enhancing the capabilities of the PowerShot A400 are supporting software applications, which include browsing and printing software ZoomBrowser EX (Windows) and ImageBrowser (Macintosh). Other bundled applications include PhotoStitch, a photo and movie manipulation software as well as ArcSoft PhotoImpression and VideoImpression.

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:

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Canon IN THREE BIG STEPS

Photo Perfection by PIXMA

PIXMA, more than anything else, is a promise. It is a promise of the highest image quality and the greatest speed. It is a promise born out of an undisputed expertise in photographic, copier, and print head technologies. It is a promise of beauty and design that will break barriers and bring home and office printing to a level it has never reached before. Most importantly, it is a promise that only Canon can make true.

The shift from document-based printing to photo-based printing has made it essential to create a unified global brand for Canon's line of bubble jet printers—a brand that will live out all competitors and prove to be the most powerful printer brand in the world market through the inheritance of assets and continuing further innovation.

"PIXMA is an important breakthrough for everyone from professional photographers to small businesses and even families," according to Mr. Howard Ozawa, President and CEO of the South and Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters of Canon Singapore Private Ltd. "Before PIXMA, offering consumers double-sided printing, additional paper cassettes or CD direct printing meant adding accessories, resulting in a much larger, bulkier printer," Mr. Ozawa explains. He adds, "PIXMA is a quantum leap as everything is built in to a stylish, compact unit."

To manifest its printing prowess, Canon now has an array of sleekly designed and powerful array of printers to suit every need, desire, budget, and lifestyle. The series is made up of eight models, each designed to make photo perfection a reality—the iP1000, iP1500, iP2000, iP3000, iP4000, iP5000, iP6000D, and iP8500.

The power of three: iP1000, iP1500 and iP2000

Because home users also seek high performance in a compact package, the new PIXMA series includes three affordable frills-free basic printers. Although not equipped with Advanced Media Handling as with other printers in the PIXMA line-up, these entry-level offerings nevertheless offer uncompromised print quality with high-resolution of 4800 dpi.

While the iP1000 and iP1500 are targeted for basic and reliable home printing, the iP2000 stands out with its 2-way paper feeding and PictBridge technology, features not found in any other printers in its class. In addition, this trio of affordable photo printers utilizes the BCI-24 ink cartridge to offer ultra-low printing costs.

Leader of the Revolution – iP3000

The new PIXMA iP3000 printer leads this printing revolution with its unbeatable value proposition. Like never before, the iP3000 offers advanced features such as automatic duplex printing, paper cassette tray, 2-way paper feeding and CD/DVD printing only found in high-end printers many times its price. It features high printing speeds of 22ppm, a high 4800 dpi resolution and a PictBridge enabled direct printing capability. Topping it all off are four Think Tanks™ – Canon's individual ink tanks that allow users to use each color ink down to the very last drop.

Probably the finest photo printer – iP5000

People who have a lot of photo printing needs should take heart in the introduction of the iP5000. It features the ContrastPlus™ ink system. It's the world's first 1 picolitre ink droplet size that is complemented by another world's first—the highest resolution of 9600x2400 dpi, making the iP5000 a dream come true for the serious photographer. The combination of the ink droplet size and resolution brings out unprecedented levels of colour gradation and details in every image. Yet with this kind of quality printing, speed is not sacrificed because the iP5000 prints up to 25ppm, and a 4R print, in as little as 36 seconds.

Everything you need in a photo printer – iP6000D

The iP6000D is best to have when you have a multitude of imaging devices. Featuring six-color photo printing and high resolution of 4800dpi, the PIXMA iP6000D is designed to reproduce the best photo prints from a variety of cameras and devices. The card-direct printing function accepts virtually any memory card, while PictBridge printing makes it possible to print directly from digital cameras. The iP6000D is armed with IrDA interface, so users can even print wirelessly from mobile devices

integrated with digital cameras. A large 2.5" LCD panel is featured, and newly developed firmware allows users to correct their color balance or search for images using just the printer, bypassing the need for a computer.

8-color photo perfection – iP8500

For the punst, nothing short of 8-colour photo printing can do the job. Featuring 8-colour ChromaPlus technology, the iP8500 is the world's first 8-colour A4 photo printer to deliver expanded color gamut unmatched by any other A4 printer. Additional green and red inks expands the color gamut by 30% and

60% respectively, enabling the iP8500 to reproduce the wide color spectrum captured by modern digital cameras, while ultra-fine 2 picolitre ink droplets and high resolution of 4800 dpi provides the photo quality demanded by advanced and professional photographers. Canon's newly developed high-density print head packed with an incredible 6144 nozzles ensures the fastest printing speed, delivering a 4R photo in just 21 seconds.

PIXMA printers will be available in the Philippine market by end of September.



iP3000

Canon

ARE YOU READY FOR PHOTO PERFECTION BY PIXMA?



When it comes to developing digital imaging products, Canon has always been at the forefront of cutting-edge technologies. This has led Canon to develop a new range of printers known as PIXMA – which taps on Canon's "Photo DNA" that comprises three kinds of DNA. Firstly, **EOS Digital Camera DNA** that comes from Canon's 70 years of know-how in professional photo composition and capture has been passed down to PIXMA printers, resulting in excellent photo printing quality. Secondly, **Bubble Jet Printing DNA** contributes to the engineering of PIXMA's exclusive FINE high-performance print head. Thirdly, **ImageRUNNER Copier DNA** in efficient document handling has been incorporated into PIXMA, providing great printing versatility. So redefine your printing experience by acquiring a PIXMA printer.

- Ultra fine image quality • Ultra fast printing speed • Double-sided printing
- Prints on various surfaces like photo paper, stickers and DVDs/CDs
- User-friendly software • Easy to operate • Sleek contemporary design



PHOTO PERFECTION BY PIXMA

B
BUBBLE JET
DIRECT

PictBridge

FINE
FINE
FINE

South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:

Canon Singapore Pte Ltd, 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 099332 www.canon.asia.com

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A GIANT LEAP TOWARDS DIGITAL INNOVATION. IN THREE BIG STEPS.

Canon

CANON KEEPS MEMORIES ALIVE THROUGH VIDEO OR STILLS

Canon Marketing Philippines announced a new Digital Video camera incorporating new technology combining RGB primary colour filter with a 2.2 megapixel CCD to produce videos with clarity and colour fidelity previously only attainable with a 3CCD system. Images from the CCD are processed by Canon's DIGIC DV digital imaging processor, which also produces outstanding still images with 2.0 megapixel resolution.

To take maximum advantage of the available image quality, a high magnification and high resolution zoom lens featuring an aspherical element is standard. The high-performance lens delivers sharp images throughout its entire zoom range, for breathtaking movies or for capturing still images suitable for printing. A new exterior design features a low-profile, compact horizontal outlook with a bright metallic finish designed to appeal to young filmmakers, family users and experienced videographers as well.

RGB Primary Colour Filter Produces 3CCD Quality

Most camcorders designed for family filmmaking features complementary (CMYK) filter due to cost and size considerations. Colour conversion (to RGB) during signal processing can result in a loss of colour fidelity. Canon's engineers utilized their expertise in digital still camera design to combine RGB primary colour filter with a powerful 2.2 megapixel CCD for colour purity without conversion. Images are processed by Canon's proprietary DIGIC DV chip, which processes moving video images and still photos

independently, assuring maximum quality in both settings. This design breakthrough produces better images with reduced noise, and allows for a more compact body design.

Outstanding High-Performance Lens with E.I.S.

The Optura30/40 features 12 elements in 10 groups, including an aspherical lens and super spectra coating developed exclusively by Canon for excellent sharpness and contrast. This assure top performance throughout the entire zoom range. The Optura30 model is equipped with a high-power, 14x



Optura 40

optical zoom lens that lets the user reach out across vast distances with the touch of the zoom control. Digital zoom is also provided, and can be reached up to 280x. The Optura40 features a 12x optical zoom lens and 240x digital zoom.

At such high levels of magnification, Electronic Image Stabilization is provided to help assure steady shake-free movies. A new ND system is incorporated to prevent the decrease of resolution caused by light diffraction.

2.0 Megapixel Still Photos

RGB primary colour filter coupled with a high-resolution CCD is an architecture perfected by Canon for digital still cameras. Combined with the DIGIC DV digital imaging processor, the new Optura30/40 has a technical advantage over competitive camcorders when it comes to recording still images. Moving video and still photos are handled independently, via signal processing dedicated to recording video on tape and still images on SD Memory Card or MultiMediaCard. Maximum still image size is 1632 x 1224 and comparable to images produced by a 2.0 megapixel dedicated digital still camera.

High Resolution 16:9 Shooting Mode for Wide-Screen Movies

The Optura30/40 also features two high-resolution 16:9 modes: one mode works with image stabilization (approx. 1.38 megapixels), and the other mode operates without image stabilization (approx. 1.5 megapixels) but provides higher resolution.

Skin Detail Mode

In this mode, the appearance of roughness in a subject's face is reduced by detecting the hue of the skin tones of the subject and by setting the compensation amount for the aperture gain in the portions concerned on the low side. One of the objectives of this mode is to deal with the adverse effect of blurred outlines of the skin tone areas when the aperture gain of those areas has been lowered. Operation is as easy as switching this function on or off as needed.

Digital Camera Functions

Most consumers will not carry and use both a DV camcorder and a digital still camera, so Canon built in advanced still camera functions that assure the Optura30 and Optura40 owner will never regret leaving his still camera behind. These include a complete range of exposure control modes, including Auto, Sports, Portrait, Spotlight, Surf and Snow, Low Light, Night. Furthermore, the Optura30 has the Night+ mode and Super Night Mode with a bright LED to illuminate subjects when shooting in dark situations.

Other features that enhance still performance are a choice of three AF points, AE Lock, Auto Exposure Bracketing, exposure compensation and continuous high-speed "motor drive" shooting at up to 5 frames per second

Motion JPEG Recordings

With the 320 x 240/160 x 120 Motion JPEG format, card video at 15 frames/second can be taken. Copies can be made from the DV tape to the card enabling you to pick your favourite scenes recorded on the tape and attach them to an e-mail as a 'video card'.

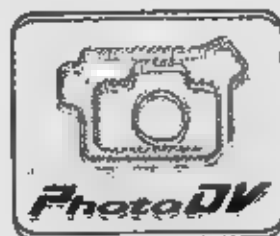
Print/Share Button and Direct Print Compatibility

Like the new Canon digital cameras, a new Print/Share Button is designed for easy print and easy share your still images. With 2.0 megapixel resolution, photos up to A4 size can easily be produced.

Direct print is easy and convenient with a dedicated USB cable through Canon Compact Photo Printers and Bubble Jet Direct Photo Printers or any printers compliant with the new PictBridge industry standard.

Network Capability

The Optura30/40 features DV Messenger 2.0, a peer-to-peer type communications software using the DVC for person-to-person tele-conferencing. It allows bi-directional transmission of audio-visual content and even playback of video recordings via the Internet. DV Messenger also allows control of a Canon DVC from a remote PC (camera zoom and focus, VCR playback and stop, and access to the memory card). Furthermore, by using the web camera function, it enables you to monitor your home from a remote location.



Canon



Great Stills. OK!
Great Movies. OK!

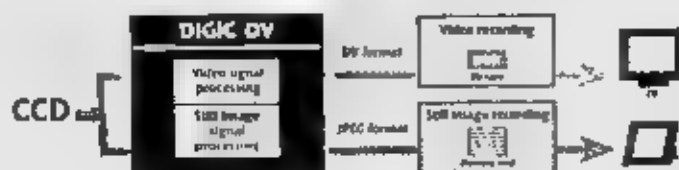
Double OK!

Introducing Canon's new 2.2 megapixel Canon Photo DV.

Now you can capture both great movies and great stills with the new Canon Photo DVs, powered by DIGIC DV. Canon Photo DVs include a RGB filter for true and natural colours, feature a large CCD to ensure image clarity, and innovative functions like an exposure button for shooting in dark conditions.

Take stunning photos with extensive features usually found in digital cameras such as a built-in flash, auto exposure bracketing for lighting control and selectable AF Frame function to shoot off-centre subjects. It's everything you need to bring memories to life, in crystal clear form. So enjoy the best of both worlds. Try the new Canon Photo DVs today. Great stills. Great movies. Double OK!

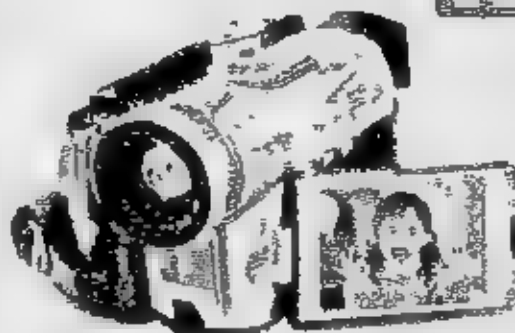
Advanced DiGiC DV technology



Since video and digital photos have very different colour requirements, DIGIC DV utilizes two techniques to maximize video quality on TV and still image quality for print or computer display. Its high-resolution 16:9 recording mode even expands the scope of effective resolution in videos, for maximum impact when played on wide-screen TVs.



Slim & compact

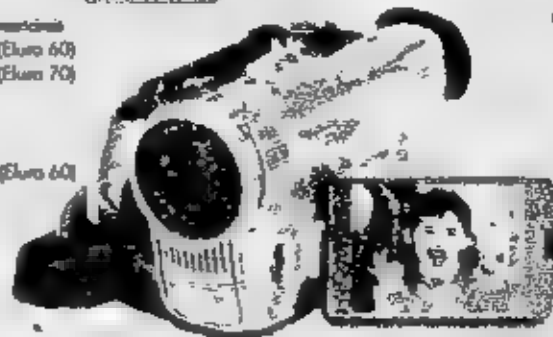


Optura 30/40

- 14x optical/280x digital zoom (Optura 30)
- 12x optical/240x digital zoom (Optura 40)
- Image Stabilizer
- Skin detail mode
- Night mode
- Night Plus/Super Night Modes (Optura 30)
- Print/Share button

Elura 60/70

- 18x optical/360x digital zoom (Elura 60)
- 14x optical/280x digital zoom (Elura 70)
- Image Stabilizer
- Skin detail mode
- Night mode
- Night Plus/Super Night Modes (Elura 60)
- Print/Share button



South & Southeast Asia Regional Headquarters:

Canon Singapore Pte Ltd 1 HarbourFront Avenue, #04-01, Keppel Bay Tower, Singapore 098632 www.canon-asia.com

Canon Marketing (Philippines), Inc. Marvin Plaza, 2153 Don Chino Rocas Avenue, Makati City • Tels.: 812-6047 / 812-6076 to 79 / 892-8449 • Fax: 810-9797
E-mail address: info@canon.com.ph • www.canon.com.ph

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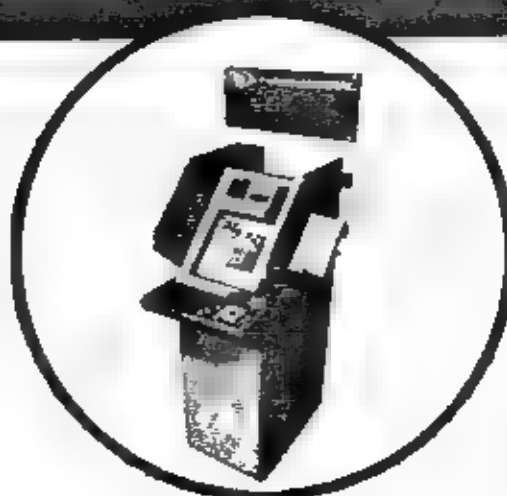
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To edit articles in an international electronic trade journal in print and online versions. Preferably a Bachelor's degree in Engineering/Mass Communication/Journalism. Must have good English communication skills and a minimum of 2 years work experience as an engineer or technical writer with some exposure to Internet is essential.

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Email: gshr@globalsources.com (Indicate job position at subject heading)
Fax: (632) 892 4087
Post: P.O. Box 457, MCPO, Makati City

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Assistant Editor

The Assistant Editor will be part of the editorial team and handle technical editorial operations and ensure optimum content quality for the trade magazine.

The successful candidate must have excellent English language skills with professional-level business writing expertise. You are required to have a degree in Journalism, Communication, or English with at least 5 years of editorial experience in a supervisory capacity. You must also have the ability to manage a team, meet tight deadlines, and have strong attention to detail. Exposure to international media content can be an advantage.

A competitive remuneration package, business travel opportunities and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested individuals should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

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Online: www.globalsources.com/careers
Email: gshr@globalsources.com (Indicate job position at subject heading)
Fax: (632) 892 4087
Post: P.O. Box 457, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com



Oxfam

Oxfam GB's purpose is to work with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering

Oxfam Great Britain's Philippine Programme needs an Disaster Management Programme Assistant

Within the context of Oxfam's development philosophy and its programme in the Philippines, to provide programme support and administrative assistance to the Humanitarian Coordinator and Programme Officers of the Disaster Management (DM) programme.

- Mature understanding of development work in the Philippines
- Conceptual, critical and analytical thinking
- Initiative and drive to achieve results
- Ability to work effectively with others
- Adaptable and flexible
- Conduct initial appraisal of proposals received, including appeals for emergency relief, and submit recommendations to the programme officer using the appraisal report format of Oxfam
- Check and analyze budgets and financial reports from partners and to submit commentaries on these to the Programme Officer
- Work with the Programme Accountant in analyzing and appraising partners' finance systems, and provide partners with appropriate recommendations and support for the improvement of their finance systems and management
- Monitor expenditures of the Disaster Management and Humanitarian programme and prepare status reports where requested by the Humanitarian Programme Coordinator and Programme Officers
- Assist the HPC and Programme Officer in financial reporting
- Render support to the Programme Officers in the conduct of process support to partners, including the assistance in:
 - Organizing and facilitating trainings, workshops and exchanges
 - Contracting and liaising with Consultants
 - Disseminating information materials
 - Research and collection of information relevant to the programme
- In the absence of the Humanitarian Programme Coordinator and Programme Officers, to receive and/or transmit information to and from partners; and where clear and instructed, deal with partner's concerns;
- To provide administrative assistance to Humanitarian and Disaster Management programme staff through the following:
 - Maintaining records and filing systems
 - Coordinating with the Central Mindanao programme for any administrative and logistic support required by the Manila-based programme staff including but not limited to supporting CMR programme staff in rendering capacity building support to CMR partners
 - Dealing with routine communications
 - Monitoring schedules of project reports and grant payments, and alerting programme staff to such
 - Making final copies of grant documents (such as project documents, grant agreement with partners, etc.) and sending these to the East Asia Regional Office in Bangkok or to Oxfam House
 - Preparing contracts and letters of approval
 - Accessing information as required by the Disaster Management Programme staff and Consultants
 - Supporting the office librarian for coding library materials for the Disaster Management Programme
- Keep track of general programme developments
- Act as member of the Philippine team of Oxfam GB.

Essential Specifications

- At least 3 years experience with local NGO's or grassroots organizations and knowledge of the Philippine NGO environment, its dynamics and operations
- Knowledge and experience of programme/project administration
- Skills and experience of monitoring, evaluation and appraisal
- Excellent budgeting and numeracy skills
- Excellent written and spoken English and Filipino
- Computer literate in MS Word and MS Excel
- Ability to manage multiple priorities and work to deadlines
- Ability to work on his/her own initiative and to build and develop the job, combined with the ability to work effectively as part of a team
- Understanding of gender issues in development, demonstrable commitment to promoting gender equality
- Willing and able to travel frequently and for extended periods

Desirable qualifications

- Knowledge of the disaster situation in the Philippines, including social, economic and political issues. Knowledge and understanding of disaster management including emergency assessment, planning and implementation and a commitment to community-based approaches
- Understanding of gender issues in development and commitment to promoting gender equality
- Knowledge and understanding of the mechanics and problems of programme implementation

Submit application form and CV to:

The Human Resources and Administrative Officer
OXFAM GREAT BRITAIN
96-A Malunany Street
Teacher's Village
Oliman, Quezon City 1101
FAX: 927-0499 email: atadede@oxfam.org.uk

Deadline of application: September 27, 2004
Interview date: October 7, 2004

ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE NOTIFIED FOR INTERVIEW

A Japanese National is urgently in need of a:

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Qualifications:

- Male: 30-40 of age
- Workplace: **Riyadh, Saudi Arabia**
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- Can understand Japanese words on Japanese food
- With good health condition and no history of serious illness

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9/F L.V. Locsin Bldg.,
Ayala corner Makati Avenue,
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On or before 15 September 2004



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- ♦ Graduate of BS Medical Technology; must be licensed
- ♦ Single, Male / Female; not more than 30 yrs. old
- ♦ With good communication and interpersonal skills
- ♦ Flexible in time schedule and dedicated to work
- ♦ Computer literate
- ♦ With pleasing personality

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGIST

- ♦ Graduate of BS Radiologic Technology; must be licensed
- ♦ Single, Male / Female; not more than 30 yrs. old
- ♦ With at least 1 yr. experience in clinic operations
- ♦ Computer literate

Note: Graduates of other medical related course are also welcome to apply

Interested parties may submit their resume, transcript of records, with 2x2 picture at:



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- Graduate of any Engineering or Business Courses
- M/F, computer literate
- Good communication & interpersonal skills.
- Selling experience preferred but not necessary

SERVICE SUPERVISORS

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- Computer literate
- With experience in handling people
- With experience in heavy equipment operation
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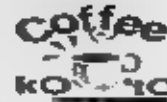
INTERESTED APPLICANTS

May personally come from Monday to Friday (9am-4pm) and Saturday (9am-2pm) and/or mail/fax your resume with picture & credentials to:

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MR. CHRIS OCONOR, HR Assistant
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- 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS
- must have passed certifying examination given by the PBS (Board eligible/Diplomate)
- at least qualified to take PBS certifying examination and the submission of satisfactory results of the in-service training examinations

III. Anesthesiology

- 3 years Residency in General Anesthesia accredited by PBA (Board eligible)
- pre-fellowship (except for graduates of the Philippine Heart Center Anesthesia Residency Program)

RESIDENCY (QUERT not required) fill-up application at DOH for matching (for Medical Board Passers)

I. Radiology

II. Nuclear Medicine

III. Biological and Clinical Laboratory (Pathology)

- Deadline for submission of application is on September 15, 2004
- Academic Year 2005 starts on January 1, 2005

General Requirements for Application for Fellowship & Residency:

1. Medical Diploma
2. Transcript of Records with the Weighted General Average
3. Licensed Board Rating
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous training programs)
5. Four (4) pcs. 2"x2" picture colored
6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to:

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City


For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocasian (cp# 0919-2885383) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 0916-3821735) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 local 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oc@phc.gov.ph

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- Business Analyst
- Telecoms Specialist
- Data Network Specialist
- T Helpdesk Associate

CORPORATE HUMAN RESOURCE

- Compensation & Benefits Manager
- Recruiting Officers

OPERATIONS

- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Service Associates
- Team Leaders
- Shift Managers
- Operations Managers
- Multilingual Representatives
- Quality Assurance Associates
- Resource Specialist

OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

- Executive Assistant to the VP

CORPORATE FOUNDATION TRAINING

- Sales Trainer

ORGANIZATIONAL DEV'T

- Leadership Recruitment Manager
- Performance Management System Officers
- Career Development Officers
- Sr. Behavioral Trainers
- Sr. Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates

PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS

- Procurement Officer
- Procurement Assistant

CORPORATE SECURITY OFFICE

- Corporate Security Officer

CEBU CAREER OPPORTUNITIES:

FINANCE

- Finance/Accounting Staff
- Administrative Staff
- Purchasing Officer
- Facilities Officer

HUMAN RESOURCE

- HR Manager
- Recruiting Team Leader
- Recruiting Officers
- Recruiting Specialists
- Payroll Specialist
- CBB Specialist

OPERATIONS

- Inbound/Outbound Sales Associates
- Technical Support Representatives
- Customer Service Associates
- Team Leaders
- (Sales, Tech Support & Order Fulfillment)
- Quality Assurance Team Leaders
- Operations Managers
- Shift Managers
- Quality Assurance Associates

ORGANIZATIONAL DEV'T

- Performance Management System Officers
- Career Development Officers
- Sr. Behavioral Trainers
- Sr. Leadership Trainers
- OD Associates

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

Vacancy No: 2004/07
Date issued: 10 September 2004
Closing Date: 24 September 2004

POST TITLE : Portfolio Manager-Peace and Development
ENTRY LEVEL : NOC
OFFICE AND LOCATION : Office of the Peace and Development Portfolio
UNDP Philippines in Manila
TYPE OF APPOINTMENT : Fixed Term
DURATION : One-year Appointment

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the overall direction of the Deputy Resident Representative and in consultation with the Programme Coordinator/Specialist, provides technical expertise and carries out substantive technical and supervisory functions in the design, implementation, evaluation and management of programmes/projects under the portfolio, in pursuit of UNDP thrusts and objectives.

Principal Accountabilities

1. Technical

- Recommends to senior management and then to government through the Resident Representative policy directions and strategic interventions of UNDP primarily on peace-building and conflict prevention;
- Undertakes advocacy functions in the context of the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), UNDP Country Programme Document (CPD), Multi-Year Funding Framework (MYFF), and associated special, regional and global initiatives;
- Identifies and recommends UNDP positions and actions to influence a positive peace agenda, including government policies;
- Assists in the development of strategic development partnerships in line with the government's peace agenda with, among others, MNL, MLC and NDF;
- Provides programme and policy advice to national counterparts and promotes translation to action plans;
- Develops portfolio/programme concepts into quality project products which generate partnerships and mobilize additional resources;
- Manages ongoing Portfolio programmes/projects for relevance and quality results while meeting delivery targets through effective monitoring and evaluation;
- Coordinates policy advocacy and programme development with Country Office and UNDAF Working Groups;
- Co-chairs the UNDAF Working Group on peace-building and conflict prevention;
- Mainstreams Philippine-based regional and global programmes, participates actively in knowledge and expertise-sharing in related practice areas among other portfolios in the Country Office (CO); other UNDP COs and UNDP headquarters, and
- Determines the feasibility of programmes/projects within budget constraints and shifting public preferences.

2. Supervisory/Administrative

- Manages financial and human resources of the Portfolio;
- Leads in the formulation of medium and short-term goals and plans of the Unit;
- Undertakes Unit operational planning and task management; and integrates Unit plans into CO workplan and MYFF;
- Monitors Unit performance and introduces improvements and problem-solving measures; ensures the successful implementation of the Unit's goals/programmes/projects as well as compliance with UNDP programme policies and procedures;
- Reviews various documents and reports generated by Unit's projects for comments;
- Provides technical guidance to unit staff and evaluates their performance; and
- Helps continuously develop staff capacity.

3. Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization

- Pursues diversified resource mobilization efforts;
- Facilitates donor coordination and cooperation by establishing/maintaining donor working groups;
- Reports on a regular basis substantive and financial status of projects funded by donors;
- Initiates private sector collaboration through partnerships.

4. Other Functions

Handles other tasks as may be assigned, such as participation in the CO senior management team, chairing various committees, or handling the task management of regional programmes in behalf of the UNDP Resident Representative.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Master's degree in political science, social sciences, development management, public administration, or related fields;
- At least 7 years experience in peace-related policy formulation and implementation and advocacy;
- At least 7 years experience in programme/project management and development;
- Experience and knowledge of peace processes, post-conflict situations and responses/approaches;
- Close familiarity and working relationships with key national and international agencies, particularly in the area of peace-building and conflict prevention;
- Extensive network among wide range of peace-building actors, including civil society organizations and area-based groups;
- Working knowledge of UNDP thrusts, policies and procedures;
- Familiarity with UNDP's corporate mandate and nature of work;
- Excellent negotiation and facilitation skills;
- Social mobilization/conference organizing experience;
- Ability to work cooperatively with others in the performance of tasks, and
- Excellent independent judgment.

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work experience.

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P-11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs and send to:

Personnel Unit
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Bldg.
106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village
Makati City

Indicating the Vacancy No. and Post Title on or before 24 September 2004. Kindly note that only completed P-11 forms will be reviewed.

UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipino nationals to apply for the post. Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.



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- With high tolerance for stress, pleasant disposition and excellent judgment skills
- Willing to work on night shifts and extended working hours

SEE US ON THE FOLLOWING INTERVIEW DATES:

SEPTEMBER 18, 2004 and SEPTEMBER 25, 2004

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TIME: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

VACANCY NO. 2004/09
 DATED ISSUED: 10 SEP. 2004
 CLOSING DATE: 24 SEP. 2004

Post Title
 Entry Level
 Office and Location
 Type of Appointment
 Duration

Programme Associate-Peace and Development
 ICS - 6
 Davao
 Appointment of Limited Duration (ALD)
 One year Appointment

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the overall direction and immediate guidance of the Portfolio Manager, the staff primarily performs operational and liaison functions involving a variety of technical, coordination, monitoring and administrative services to support UNDP priorities and initiatives on peace-building and conflict prevention, particularly for programmes and projects in Mindanao.

A. Programme Operation and Implementation

- Advise executing/implementing agencies and Programme Management Offices (PMOs) on National Execution (NEX) as first point of call;
- Ensure adequate allocation and efficient use of resources for programme activities;
- Provide guidance on programme/project implementation to ensure consistency of development results, plans and objectives as indicated in the UNDP Country Programme Document;
- Provide support and direct linkage to executing/implementing agencies and PMOs on UNDP policies and procedures on programme/project implementation; determine implementation issues/bottlenecks and provide inputs and recommendations to facilitate operational activities as necessary;
- Guide and review the preparation of detailed work and financial plans in consultation with executing/implementing agencies and PMOs, and provide comments/recommendations for endorsement at Executive/Management Committee meetings;
- Guide and support programme operation of UNDP-supported programmes/projects by facilitating and providing follow-through for effective workflow with the Portfolio, other UNDP units as well as with participating UN agencies as necessary;
- Prepare for submission to the Portfolio Manager (PM) regular status reports on UNDP-supported programmes/projects/activities in Mindanao.

B. Monitoring & Evaluation, and Reporting

- Ensure the tracking and monitoring of programme and project performance against intended work and financial plan including financial delivery rates, flag issues and concerns to UNDP and, as appropriate, with executing agencies and PMOs;
- Conduct regular monitoring visits to the project sites aimed at troubleshooting, ground verification of project relevance and providing assistance to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of provision and utilization of programme/project technical inputs;
- Ensure and maintain effective monitoring and feedback systems covering progress of programme and project outcomes and outputs, best practices and lessons learned;
- Ensure and facilitate the timely preparation of reports on programme/project performance (both substantive and financial) against work plan targets, and provides recommendations to the PM on appropriate management actions and follow-up activities;
- Review and provide inputs to programme/project-related reports and documents i.e. results, outputs, best practices and lessons learned; and undertake appropriate consultations with executing/implementing agencies and UN agencies;
- Participate in Portfolio and programme-related meetings and reviews to assess progress, determine implementation issues and recommend management actions related to UNDP-supported programmes and projects in Mindanao.

C. Liaison and Networking

- Establish and maintain close liaison with, among others, local government units and agencies, local institutions, UN agencies, civil society and people's organizations, private sector, other Official Development Assistance (ODA) programmes relative to UNDP programmes/projects/activities/initiatives in Mindanao;
- Provide support in organizing national and international missions, meetings and conferences, project site visits of Mindanao-related activities;
- Participate in programme meetings related to Mindanao (i.e., programme reviews, quarterly annual reviews, technical working group, workshops, and monitoring visits) and provides appropriate backstopping to PM and other portfolio staff.

D. Other Functions

- Represent UNDP at Mindanao-related meetings;
- Provide inputs in the conduct of programme audit;
- Provide inputs and assist in the management of P&D portfolio knowledge products in the UNDP Share Portal and for the general public;
- Participate in regular Unit meetings;
- Perform other tasks as may be assigned.

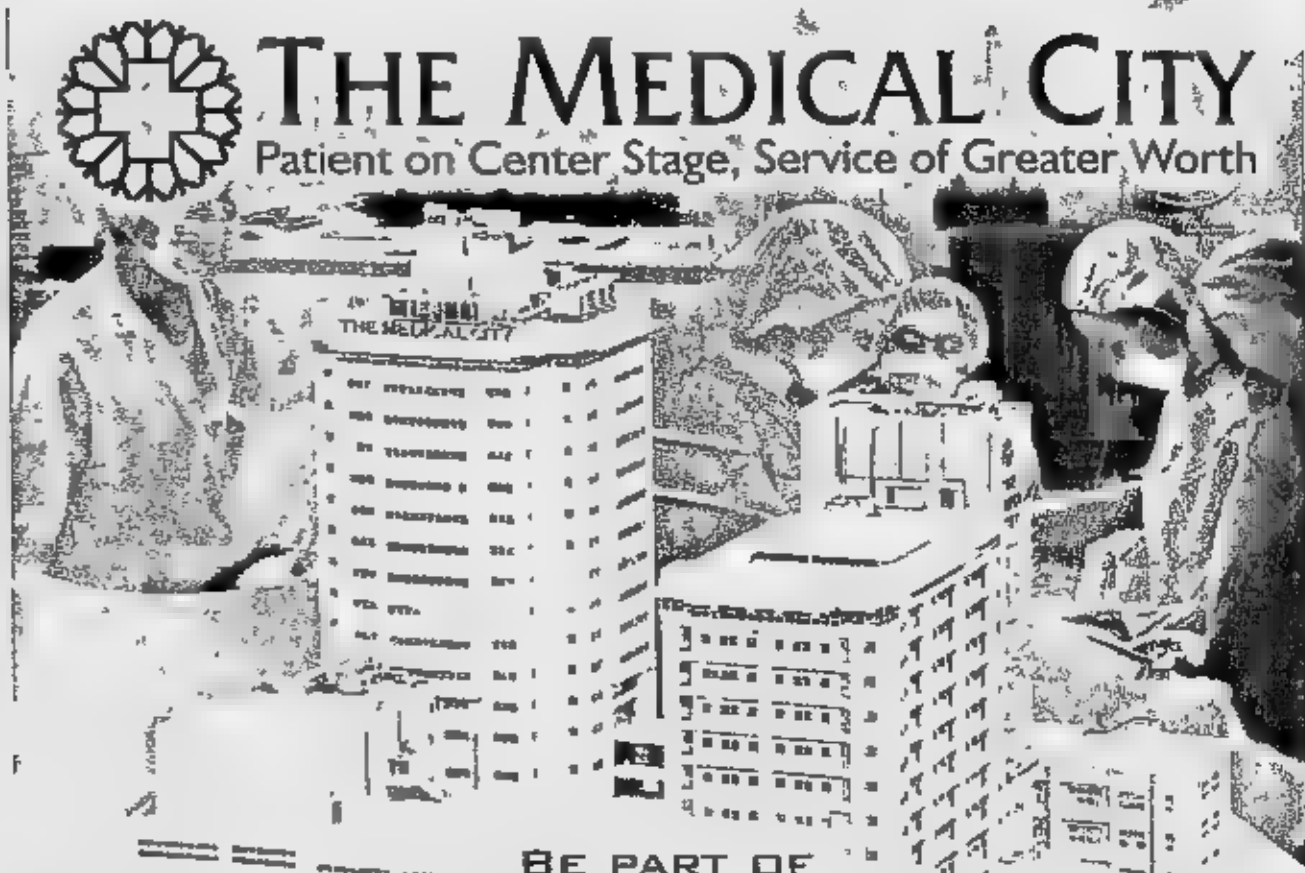
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree on social sciences, development management, public administration or related field; Master's degree an advantage;
- At least 4-5 years experience in programme management, monitoring and evaluation, preferably in area-based post-conflict programmes;
- At least 4-5 years experience in working with donor-assisted programmes;
- Demonstrated extensive network with government agencies and units, local institutions, civil society, media, and ODA programmes in Mindanao;
- Appreciation of peace and conflict issues particularly in the Mindanao context;
- Special training on peace-building, conflict prevention and local governance an advantage;
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written, in English and two or more local languages;
- Excellent interpersonal skills;
- Must be willing to be posted in Mindanao.

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work experience. Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs and send to:

Human Resources Unit
 United Nations Development Programme
 7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Bldg.
 106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village
 Makati City

Indicating the Vacancy No. and Post Title on or before 24 September 2004. Kindly note that only completed P.11 forms will be reviewed. UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipino nationals to apply for the post. Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.



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- (2) Letters of Recommendation
- Curriculum Vitae
- Class Ranking
- Transcript of Records (certified true copy)
- Diploma (certified true copy)
- Certificate of Internship (certified true copy)
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- PRC Card (photocopy)
- Birth Certificate

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- Certificate of Residency (certified true copy)
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For further inquiries, please contact:
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 635-6789 local 6273 and look for Ms. France
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Let's Study in Japan

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has started the implementation of the Japanese Grant Aid for Human Resource Development Scholarship (JDS) through the assistance of the Government of Japan for Japanese Fiscal Year 2002.

The objective of the JDS Project is to provide Philippine nationals with opportunities for obtaining master's degree at the Japanese universities in order to support human resource development policy of the Government of the Philippines, and eventually to extend and strengthen the bilateral relationship between the Philippines and Japan.

The JDS Project targets young people in public sector who are expected to play leadership roles in the Philippines and people in private sector who are expected to contribute to the development of the Philippines market economy.

Degree to be obtained and Field of Study

- Degree: Master's Degree only (2 years courses)
- Field of Study (number of scholars to be accepted)

- 2-1. (for public sector)
 - Public Administration (8 persons)
 - Economics (7 persons)
 - Information and Communication Technology (3 persons)
- 2-2. (for public and private sectors)
 - Business Administration (2 persons)

- Language of Instruction: predominantly English

Qualification Requirements:

- Nationality: Filipino
- Age: Below 35 years old as of April 1, 2005. Those who were born on/after April 2, 1970. (Age limit is subject to change without prior notice. Please confirm with JICE Office or web site.)
- Academic background: Applicants should have bachelor's degree relevant to the target fields of study, except for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) field that requires bachelor's degree in ICT or equivalent.
- Work experience: At least 2 years of work experience at the time of nomination and presently employed.
- English language proficiency level: IELTS 6.0 / TOEFL 550 (CBT 213) or above is required.
- Military personnel are not eligible to apply.
- Currently or in the past, those who have been awarded foreign scholarship for Master's degree are not eligible to apply.
- Applicants should be physically and mentally fit to complete the course within its duration.
- Successful candidates shall attend full-time preparatory Japanese language training in Manila for 2 months from April 2005.

Deadline for Application

No later than 17:00hrs on October 22, 2004. Late submission and incomplete application documents shall not be permitted.

Where to submit

Application forms and required documents must be submitted either personally, by mail, or courier to JICE/JDS Project Office.

Responsible Agency

National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA- Special Committee on Scholarships)

Application

- Applicants must complete Application Documents.
- Application Documents are distributed at:
 - JICE JDS Project Office, or
 - can be downloaded at <http://www.jice.org/english/>

Selection Procedures

- The First Selection: Submitted application forms will be examined by Japanese University Professors in Japan.
- SCS Interview: Successful candidates of the 1st selection process should undergo SCS Interview.
- SCS: Special Committee on Scholarships.
- The Second Selection:
 - Applicants will sit for English proficiency test in early January 2005.
 - Applicants will be required to sit for basic mathematics test at this stage.
- The Third Selection:
 - Applicants will undergo the Technical interview by Japanese University Professors in early February 2005.
- The Fourth Selection:
 - Applicants will undergo the Comprehensive interview in late February 2005.
 - Applicants will be required to undergo a medical examination at a designated hospital before this stage.

For further information, please contact:

JICE JDS Project Office in the Philippines
 (Mon to Fri, 09:00 to 12:00, 13:30 to 16:30)
 * Unit 2008, 88 Corporate Center, Valero corner
 Sedeno Streets, Saicedo Village, Makati City, Philippines
 * TEL 02-757-4990
 * Official Web Site: <http://www.jice.org/english/>



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UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME NOTICE OF JOB VACANCY

VACANCY NO. 2004/08
DATE ISSUED: 10 SEPTEMBER 2004
CLOSING DATE: 24 SEPTEMBER 2004

Post Title: Programme Associate-Peace and Development
Entry Level: ICS 7
Office and Location: Office of the Peace and Development Portfolio
UNDP Philippines in Manila
Type of Appointment: Fixed Term
Duration: One-Year Appointment

II. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the overall direction and immediate guidance of the Portfolio Manager, the Programme Associate performs programme management tasks including participation in programme design/development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. The post requires technical and administrative services related to programme activities that support UNDP priorities and initiatives on peace-building and conflict prevention.

1. Technical Support to Portfolio Programme Development

1.1. Programme Design and Development

- Draft documents including Preparatory Assistance Documents (PA) and Programme/Project Documents (PD).
- Provide inputs to project work plans, output benchmarks and indicator system;
- Prepare reports and collect, organize and analyze data, statistics and other information relevant to programme-specific initiatives;
- Review lessons learned and best practices from programme/project implementation to recommend possible alternative approaches to new programme/project design;
- Coordinate and discuss technical issues and concerns at counterpart level (UNDP, government offices, non-governmental organizations, donor agencies, private sector) towards approval of programme proposals and documents.

1.2. Programme Implementation

- Guide/manage wholly or in part, as delegated by the Portfolio Manager, routine portfolio tasks and programme implementation activities;
- Ensure the preparation of the Annual Work Plan (AWP) and administer the Enterprise Resource Programme (ERP/ATLAS) for the portfolio;
- Prepare programme reports and documents for submission to UNDP (country, regional and headquarters);
- Provide appropriate advice to executing/implementing agencies and Programme Management Offices (PMOs) on UNDP policies and procedures for programmes/projects under National Execution (NEX) modality;
- Review PMO and other project-related reports to ensure compliance with donor requirements; and
- Participate in portfolio or programme-related meetings (i.e., programme reviews, quarterly annual reviews, technical working groups), workshops, and other related activities.

1.3. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Maintain effective monitoring and feedback systems, covering progress of programme and project outputs and activities, best practices and lessons learned;
- Review and synthesize reports on programme and project performance against work plan targets and provide recommendations on appropriate management actions;
- Ensure the tracking and monitoring of financial delivery rates for Portfolio programmes; and
- Participate in the conduct regular monitoring visits to project sites.

1.4. Strategic Partnerships

- Establish and maintain liaison with staff counterparts of potential donors and programme contributors;
- Assist in resource mobilization and in monitoring/follow-through of pipeline projects on an ongoing basis;
- Assist in the design and packaging of proposals and briefing materials for donors and programme contributors;
- Establish and maintain peace-building networks among various sectors in government and civil society.

2. Financial Administration and Monitoring

- Verify and clear budget revisions to ensure adequate resource allocations and reflect budget adjustments before approval of Portfolio Manager;
- Ensure coordination and follow-through with executing/implementing agencies and PMO counterparts in the review and approval of financial and personnel requests and endorsements, as well as financial closure of programmes;
- Ensure effective portfolio financial monitoring and feedback systems/mechanisms;
- Verify the appropriateness, completeness and accuracy of quarterly and annual financial reports, including Combined Delivery Reports (CDRs) and related documents before submission to Portfolio Manager and concerned UNDP units;
- Monitor financial status/availability and projected expenditures of portfolio programmes and projects, and synthesize the same.

3. Knowledge Management and Practice

- Design and organize the collection, maintenance and organization of portfolio knowledge products, programme reports and documents required by the UNDP Country Office (CO) and Headquarters;
- Participate in CO, regional and practice area online discussions and sharing, particularly on peace-building, human security and conflict prevention;
- Prepare speeches, briefing reports and other public information materials regarding programme and project-related concerns as requested by government agencies, UNDP/UN agencies and other programme partners;
- Ensure that consultancy database of consultants, terms of reference and workplans and proposals is maintained.

4. Other Tasks

- In the absence of (or together with) the Portfolio Manager, participate in portfolio related meetings, group discussions and conferences; and
- Provide support in organizing national and international missions, meetings and conferences of portfolio-related activities; and
- Perform other tasks as may be assigned.

III. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in the Social Sciences, Public Administration, Development Management, or related field; Master's degree an advantage
- At least 4-5 years experience in programme/project management and development
- At least 4-5 years experience in dealing with donors, government, academe, non-government organizations (NGOs), people's organizations (POs), and peace-building groups/institutions
- Working knowledge of UNDP thrusts, policies and procedures
- Familiarity in the use of automated financial system, preferably ERP/ATLAS
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Excellent interpersonal skills

The selected candidate will receive a salary depending on his/her background and work experience. Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P-11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs, and send to:

Human Resources Unit
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Bldg.
106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village
Makati City

Indicating the Vacancy No. and the Post Title on or before 24 September 2004. Kindly note that only completed P-11 forms will be reviewed. UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipino nationals to apply for the post. Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.



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Audit Manager

- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon/ Mindanao
- With 3 years auditing experience in supervisory capacity

Accounting Associates

- Male/Female, a graduate of Accountancy
- Values driven, diligent worker & team-player
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Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resume with 2x2 picture at the HRD Department, KMBI Head Office, #12 KMBI Bldg., San Francisco St., Karuhutan, Valenzuela City or email at kmbi@skyinet.net or m_prodia@yahoo.com Telephone Numbers: 291-1484-85, Fax No. 292-2441

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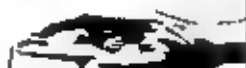
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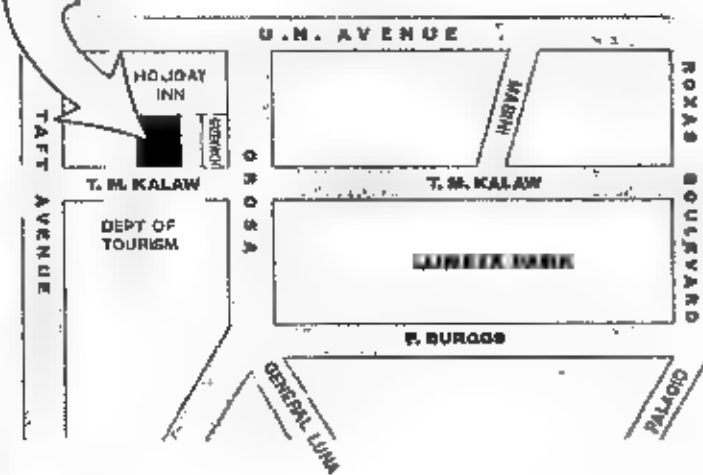
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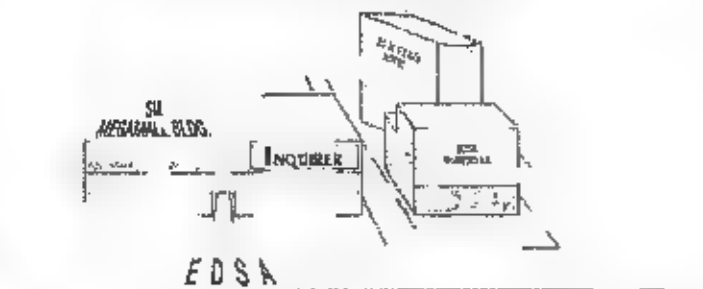
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NOVEMBER 19, 2004

PRYCE PLAZA CAGAYAN DE ORO 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
CARMEN HILL, CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY
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MARRIOTT CEBU CITY HOTEL 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
CARDINAL ROSALES AVE. CEBU CITY
TEL. # 232-6100

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METRO CENTER 8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
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MANILA DIAMOND HOTEL 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.
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- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/ College Degree or Professional License (Passed Board/Bar/Professional License Exam) in Finance/Accountancy/Banking or equivalent.
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
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- College graduate with engineering background preferred
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- Experience in polar cutter operation
- Fast learner
- With 3 years experience/College level

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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

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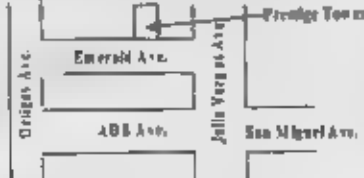
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Ground Floor:

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INTERVIEW: After initial scrutiny, individuals will be informed about the date of interview.



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A MERCHANDISING MANAGER who will be responsible for planning of merchandise assortment and allocations and implementing a strategic presentation and display to ensure sell-through. A professional in task and workplace management. A person with passion for fashion and has the panache to set trends. We would like this person to be schooled in Fine Arts or Architecture and preferably experienced in the advertising and interior designing industry for 3 to 5 years. Willingness to travel will be a requirement.

A HEAD DESIGNER. Our ideal partner is an individual who is creative and flair for fashion and style who shall be the forerunner of a team of designers. May be male or female, about 25 years old or so. Their team shall be responsible to come up with total product concept from designing to sampling. A graduate of Fine Arts who majored in Advertising or Interior Designing will be preferred.

Some **AREA SALES MANAGERS** with excellent written and verbal communications skills. This person should have concrete action plans on how a sales team shall be managed and motivated to meet targets and develop strategic interventions and can perform these with a sense of urgency and assertiveness. Aside from completing a degree in business management or marketing, related experience in tenant relations and management of retail shopping and mall operations will be an added advantage.

And lastly, an **EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT.** We need an individual to handle daily and weekly schedules and activities of fast-paced and high-status personality. We prefer one who is articulate and excellent in written and oral communications. Our ideal is a person who has the ability to handle business correspondence requirements and a knack for technology and understanding of new economy.

Please send us a copy of your personal qualifications record with your work responsibilities described in detail along with a recent photo and copy of school records. You may send them to:

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EDSA Avenue, Mandaluyong City, MM

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- Good in conceptualizing & implementing marketing plans and strategies
- Must have excellent written and verbal communication skills, interpersonal and leadership skills
- Confident, assertive and pro-active
- Committed, hardworking, with initiative, has a drive for progress
- Must have the ability to handle multiple projects simultaneously in a fast-paced environment

GRAPHIC ARTIST

- Male or Female, at least 21 years old
- Graduate of Fine Arts preferably with a degree in Advertising
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply
- Knowledge in Photoshop, Freehand or Illustrator
- (Knowledge in InDesign or any 3D programs is a plus)
- Willing to handle visual merchandising projects
- Must be highly creative and hardworking
- Can work under pressure and beat deadlines with minimal supervision

Interested applicants can submit their resumes at:
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- pleasing personality

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- college graduate, major in Accounting
- with at least 1 year work experience in a travel agency
- proficient in accounting systems and procedures
- organized, analytical and systematic

OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR/MANAGER

- knowledge in Galileo and/or Abacus reservation system
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Technical Manager (Garment Fit, Fabric and Color)

The position is responsible for leading and managing a team of specialists in 3 garment technical areas - garment fit, fabric and color to meet customer specifications. He/she will provide direction and coach specialists to solve technical issues for designers/merchandising team on garment fit, fabric and color

Requirements

- A Bachelor Degree in Textile or equivalent with minimum 15 years' of garment construction/ manufacturing experience. The candidate should possess international experience and/or completed some overseas assignments.
- Able to provide constructive comments or advice for manufacturers to improve fit and product appearance.
- Solid technical knowledge in knitting construction and limitations.
- Good understanding of woven, knits, sweater as well as yarn spinning and dyeing processes.
- Experience in fabric processing (weaving/knitting, dyeing, printing, washing and finishing) and testing
- A good leader with excellent communication and people interaction skills.

QA Manager

The position will play an instrumental role in providing strategic directions for the quality assurance operations. He/she is responsible for directing and leading a team of quality assurance members to ensure our manufacturing partners adhere to quality standards of Mast.

Requirements

- A Bachelor Degree in Textile/Supply Chain/Quality Assurance with minimum 15 years' of quality assurance experience in apparel industry. The candidate should possess international experience and/or completed some overseas assignments.
- Knowledge of woven, knits, sweater manufacturing and production is essential.
- Ability to adjust paper patterns, draw diagram or sketch to illustrate garment fit requirements.
- Proficient in interpreting accurately customer specifications and work with factory to meet all aspects of requirements to improve garment fit.
- A matured leader with the drive, initiative, resourcefulness and management skills.

Garment Technician

The position provides technical support to designers, customers and factory personnel in the area of sewing, construction, garment fit and workmanship.

Requirements

- A Bachelor Degree in Textile or equivalent with 5 years' of garment construction in apparel industry.
- Have pattern making background or training, preferably possess experience as a pattern maker
- Ability to adjust paper patterns, draw diagram or sketch to illustrate garment fit requirements.
- Proficient in interpreting accurately customer specifications and work with factory to meet all aspects of requirements to improve garment fit.
- Good English writing skills for effective communication.

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Unit 2003, 20th Floor Antel 2000 Building
No. 121 Valero Street, Salcedo Village
Makati City, Philippines

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graduate of Behavioral Science, Law, Psychology or any 4-year Management course; with intensive experience in personnel management; must be able to build and maintain professional relations with people in the organization

TREASURY MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 2 years supervisory experience in accounting, funds management or treasury functions; familiar with banking operations & Central Bank procedures

ACCOUNTING MANAGER / OFFICER

must be a Certified Public Accountant; female, not over 35 years old; with 2 to 5 years of managerial experience in all accounting operations; has the ability to work in a fast paced environment; with strong computer skills and skills to oversee and manage monthly and quarterly budget and vacancies analysis

ADVERTISING & PROMOTION COORDINATOR

graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in advertising; must be creative and with good fashion sense; strong organization and communication skills; must be computer literate

ENGINEER

* Mechanical * Civil * Electrical
not over 30 years old; preferably licensed; with 1 year work experience in construction projects or mill operations

DESIGN OFFICER

not over 28 years old; graduate of Architecture; preferably licensed; knowledgeable in AutoCAD application; with 1 year work experience in site inspection and supervision; proficient in drafting, designing and estimates

DISPLAY OFFICER

not over 32 years old; graduate of Fine Arts, or any 4-year related course; with 1 year experience in visual merchandising and window display in a retail business; proficient in Adobe Photoshop, Coreldraw, Printshop

TRAINING OFFICER / TRAINER

not over 32 years old; graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year business course; with 2 years related work experience; knowledgeable in conducting training needs analysis, designing, implementing and evaluating of training programs and activities related to behavior and skill modification of employees

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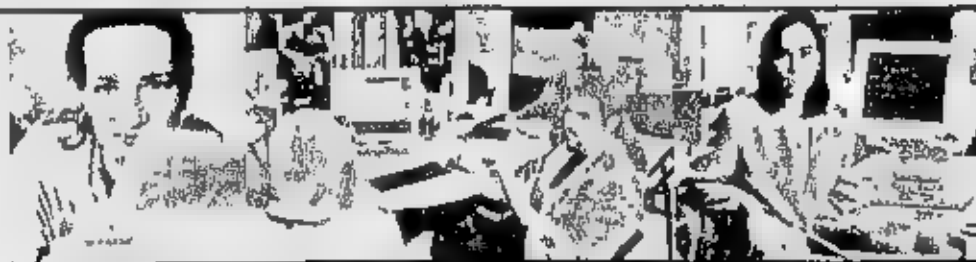
not over 32 years old; must be a Registered Nurse; with 2 years experience in industrial or hospital setup; able to establish rapport and deal with all levels of the organization; willing to work on shift schedules or extended hours

COMPUTER OPERATOR / TECHNICIAN

not over 28 years old; graduate of Computer Science / Engineering; with 1 to 2 years experience in repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash registers

OFFICE ASSISTANT

(Human Resources * Accounting * Treasury * Customer Service)
not over 25 years old; graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Communication Arts, Business Management, Accountancy, Computer Science or any 4-year business course; Personable, fast learner and willing to work on extended hours



OPERATIONS GROUP

BRANCH OPERATIONS MANAGER

has a degree in Business Management, Marketing or any related course; with 3 to 5 years relevant experience in Management or Marketing in a senior capacity; with outstanding leadership, interpersonal and team-building skills; able to conceptualize and implement attainable sales and Marketing Strategies; has a proven track record in sales and service

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

not over 35 years old; graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering; with 2 years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity; able to lead a group, prioritize work load and meet deadlines

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in sales and marketing, able to carry out prompt and efficient customer service; with pleasing personality

SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity; responsible for planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets

COUNTER & CHECKING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in cashiering operations, familiar with credit card and cash transactions; responsible for over-all supervision of personnel in the department

WAREHOUSE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business; able to lead and motivate staff, and foster a team working environment

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

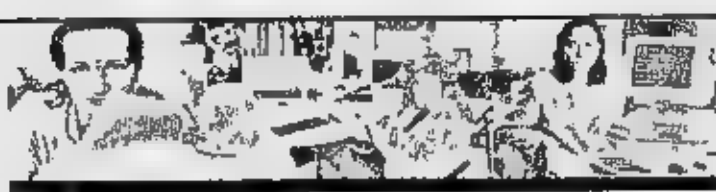
not over 35 years old; graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course, male, must be 5'5 1/2" & female, 5'2" in height; with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel; with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior; with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned to provincial branches and work on extended hours

Candidates for the position should have the following competencies:

- ✓ excellent communication skills (both verbal and written form)
- ✓ can relate well with all levels of the organization
- ✓ proficient in computer software applications
- ✓ team player, goal oriented and able to work well under pressure
- ✓ willing to grow with the organization
- ✓ willing to work on weekends and holidays



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SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR (AS/400)

not over 35 years old; graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineer or Electronics and Communications Engineer; with at least 2 years of solid experience in the administration of multiple AS/400's; with an in-depth experience in performance tuning and capacity planning; experience in AS/400 programming is a plus; possess great interpersonal skills

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR (Lotus Notes)

not over 35 years old; graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineer or Electronics and Communications Engineer; with at least 2 years of solid experience in the administration Lotus Notes (v 6.52) and UNIX (preferably AIX); experience in Lotus programming is a plus; possess great interpersonal skills

LAN ADMINISTRATOR

not over 30 years old; graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineer or Electronics and Communications Engineer; with at least 1 year experience in the maintenance of a Local Area Network, with an in-depth experience with Win95/2k/XP and VLAN, Wins, DHCP, DNS; extensive knowledge of structured cabling; industry certification is a plus; possess great interpersonal skills

DOCUMENTATION ANALYST

not over 30 years old; graduate of Computer related or business course; possess great administrative and organizational skills; highly experienced in using office productivity tools; familiar with Win95/98/2k/XP; with experience as a technical writer is a plus; possess great interpersonal skills



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top of the corporate
ladder



SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity; responsible for planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course; male, must be 5'5 1/2" & female, 5'2" in height; with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel, with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior, with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned to provincial branches and work on extended hours

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business; able to lead and motivate staff, and foster a team working environment



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ACCOUNT ASSOCIATE (Kalookan & Makati)

- Will be responsible in assisting Account Officers in servicing of accounts and handling of the documentation of accounts
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Must possess good analytical skills; good communication skills; highly developed interpersonal skills and a high sense of responsibility

ACCOUNT OFFICER - Acquired Assets (VisMin)

- Will be responsible in the marketing and selling of all industrial and agricultural ROPOA assets
- Graduate of any 4 year business course, preferably Marketing
- Must have experience in conducting market/feasibility studies

ACCOUNT OFFICER - Corporate Banking (Kalookan & Makati)

- Will be responsible in evaluating and recommending Credit facilities/loan proposals. Candidates will also market and manage borrowing clients' availments, collections and accommodations of credit facilities
- Minimum 3 years experience as Corporate Account Officer in any Commercial/Universal Bank

ACCOUNT OFFICER - Salary Loan

- Will be responsible in Salary Loan generation and processing
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience as a Salary Loan Officer

AUTO LOAN SECTOR HEAD

- Will be responsible for managing and controlling all consumer banking operations in Auto Loans such as loan processing, lending guidelines and other loan activities according to bank policies and procedures taking into account loan target and quality portfolio
- Minimum 2 years experience as Auto Loan Head in any Commercial/Universal Bank

BRANCH SERVICE HEAD

- Will be responsible for the over-all Branch Operations
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience as Branch Operations Officer or have handled both Branch Cashier and Branch Accountant positions in any Commercial/Universal Bank

BRANCH SALES OFFICER

- Will be responsible in account solicitation for the branch and assisting in the servicing and maintenance of existing account holders
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 2 years experience in a Sales/Marketing function in a bank or any financial institution

BRANCH SALES SPECIALIST

- This is an entry position eventually leading to Sales Officership. Qualified candidates will undergo classroom and on the job training involving field sales calls, sales planning, prospecting, appointment getting and presentation. Candidates are expected to attain targets for number of sales calls, accounts opened and volume of funds generated
- Graduate of any 4 year course with strong inclination and high aptitude for sales

BRANCH SALES ASSOCIATE

- Will be responsible for handling and processing account opening, and other bank products
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Minimum 1 year bank experience in Branch Operations

BRANCH CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATE

- Will be responsible in client/account servicing in the branch
- Graduate of any 4 year business course

CORPORATE PLANNING OFFICER (M-VP)

- Will be responsible for formulation and driving the bank-wide strategic planning process; review and consolidate the Bank's financial and business plans and refine plans to ensure soundness and alignment to the Corporate goals and strategy. Key responsibilities include designing and maintaining reliable and robust systems for monitoring performance versus targets/plans and establishing industry/competitor intelligence.
- Expert in finance and competent in accounting
- Thorough understanding of core banking operations
- Experience in implementing the strategic planning process will be an advantage

DEALER COORDINATOR

- Will be responsible in soliciting auto loan applications from various Car Dealers
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Experience in auto loans marketing/operations will be an advantage

MARKETING ASSOCIATE

- Will be responsible in carrying out of marketing and selling activities of the ROPOA properties and documentation of sale of acquired assets
- Graduate of any 4 year business course
- Must know how to drive a motor vehicle
- Work experience in a similar field will be an advantage

MORTGAGE SECTOR HEAD

- Will be responsible for managing and controlling all consumer banking operations in Mortgage Loans such as loan processing, lending guidelines and other loan activities according to bank policies and procedures taking into account loan target and quality portfolio
- Minimum 2 years experience as Mortgage Head in any Commercial/Universal Bank

PRODUCT SPECIALIST

- Will be responsible in presentation of the Bank's Cash Management products and services
- Graduate of any 4 year business course, preferably Marketing
- At least 1 year experience in Banking and Sales/Marketing

TREASURY OFFICER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (TODP) TRAINEE

- Will undergo extensive training on all Treasury Operations processes and flow; Qualified Trainees will become Treasury Officers after completion of (1) one year training program
- Graduate of any 4 year business course; with good scholastic records
- Must possess good analytical skills; good communication skills; highly developed interpersonal skills and a high sense of responsibility

TRUST OFFICER (AM-M)

- Will be responsible for delivery of major projects to ensure achievement of the Trust Center's strategic objectives. These projects will involve significant changes in the organization's practices, have an element of complexity, and will be cross functional in nature. Key responsibilities include project management, product development, portfolio management, and business development.
- Well versed in portfolio management and trust operations
- Possess in-depth knowledge of trust rules and regulations
- Possess a track record of managing projects that have a strategic impact on business
- MBA and/or CFA qualifications preferred

Be a part of a company with Global Standards, currently being benchmarked in Service & Competence.

Interested parties are requested to send their comprehensive resumes to any of the addresses below with a 2x2 photo attached.

(POSITION APPLIED FOR)

International Exchange Bank
Recruitment & Placement Sector
4/F iBank Exchange Building, 142 Amorsolo St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City

E-mail address: jobs@ibank.com.ph

Visit our website at www.ibank.com.ph

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING CREDIT AND COLLECTIONS OFFICER (CCO)

PRIMARY FUNCTIONS:

- Maintain Accounts Receivable, general and subsidiary records
- Prepare aging and other analyses for management
- Establish and maintain credit evaluation system
- Ensure adherence to credit and collection policies
- Prepare and transmit Statement of Accounts to clients
- Coordinate with internal Client Services Department for follow-up with clients

JOB MUST:

- Accounting or Business Graduate
- At least 5 years experience in credit and collection, internal or external audit, with at least 2 years supervisory experience.
- Above Average communication skills (written and oral)
- Detail-oriented and pro-active
- Experience in both manual and automated financial systems is a plus

Interested parties can send
their resumé via fax 9118854,
You can also email us at yol_gonzales@yahoo.com.

WANTED

- MED TECH (with license)
- MED SECRETARY
- Not more than 30 yrs old
- Female
- With Pleasant Personality
- Computer Literate

Apply in person with resumé & new 2"x2" ID Photo
on Sept. 9, 16, 23 & Oct. 7, 2004 2-5 p.m. only.
1503 Annapolis Walkway Plaza,
No. 11 Annapolis Street, Greenhills, San Juan

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aficareers@yahoo.com

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background in VB.NET is ADVANTAGE
Send your resumé with a new 2x2 picture, at Medical Plaza,
Makati Bldg 17/F Flr 1712 Amorsolo cor Dea Rosa St.,
Legaspi Vll Makati City, Tel. # 8132941 look for Judy

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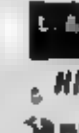
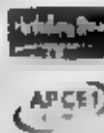


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CONSOLIDATED BUILDING MAINTENANCE, INC.
G/F Jovan Condominium 800 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Our company has been in the business for over 30 years with a manpower consisting of over a thousand personnel rendering services to various clients most of which are multinational corporations, embassies, banks and hospitals in Metro Manila. We are currently in need of dynamic and dedicated people to join our team:

1. PROFESSIONAL MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEER (PME/PEE)

- Minimum of 10 years experience in facilities management preferably of Hospitals, Malls, and/or High Rise Buildings
- Male, not more than 45 years old
- Proficient in the application of computer software for facilities management

2. REGISTERED ARCHITECT

- At least 2 years experience in civil works
- Male or Female, not more than 35 years old
- Proficient in AutoCAD and other computer software

3. HOUSEKEEPING SUPERVISOR

- Graduate of HRM or any business related course
- Male or Female, 25 to 35 years old
- With at least 1 year experience in the same capacity preferably in a hospital or hotel setting
- Computer literate

4. ELECTRO-MECHANICAL / HANDYMAN

- Graduate of Industrial Technology Course
- Male, 22 to 25 years old
- Experience in the repairs of tools and equipment for medical, kitchen and office use
- Computer literate

5. CHEMICAL ENGINEER

- Male/Female, 25 to 35 years old
- Experience in the formulation and mixing of cleaning chemicals is an advantage
- With valid PRC license
- Computer literate

6. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

- Graduate of Industrial Engineering Management, Management Engineering or other business related courses
- Preferably Female not more than 35 years old
- At least 5 years experience
- Above average computer skills (Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access)

7. MASTER ELECTRICIAN / CERTIFIED PLANT MECHANIC

- Graduate of Electrical Engineering or Trade School Electrical Course
- Male, 22 to 35 years old
- Experience in the installation and maintenance of electrical wiring system in an industrial setting
- Computer literate

8. DELIVERY RIDERS

- Male, 18 to 35 years old
- High School graduate
- At least 2 years experience in motorcycle driving
- With Professional Driver's License (Code 1,2)

To Apply, please send your letter of intent with your resumé and 2x2 picture via:

- E-mail: cbmrecruiting@mydestiny.net
- Fm. 231 St. Anthony's Bldg., Aurora Blvd. cor. Cambridge, Cubao, Quezon City - Infront of ISETANN (look for CES # 9134752)
- G/F Jovan Cond., 800 Shaw Blvd. cor. Samar St., Mandaluyong City - Infront of CONSERVATORY (look for AMOR # 6333494)

Our Company is looking for competent individuals who will fit the following positions:

AUDITING MANAGER

- He/She must be a graduate of BS Accountancy at least 30 years old with at least 5 years managerial experience in Auditing in a manufacturing/construction firm. Preferably with a background in Technical Audit
- He/She must possess strong leadership and interpersonal skills, good organizational and with excellent communication skills and
- He/She must be a computer literate

CHINESE TRANSLATORS

- He/She must be native speaker of Mandarin and preferably a national of the People's Republic of China
- He/She will be responsible for the translation of different documents and transactions of the Company from English to Chinese and vice-versa
- He/She will be tasked to prepare and coordinate necessary documents and requirements for the Company's various projects
- He/She must be trustworthy, assertive and responsible
- He/She must have excellent communication skills
- He/She must be at least 27-35 years old
- College graduates with Bachelor's degree are preferred

Applicants may apply in person or send their resumé with 2x2 picture and Transcript of Records to:

The Human Resources Division
2/F Triumph Bldg., 1610 Quezon Avenue, Quezon City or
send e-mail to: hrdpho@info.com.ph

An aggressively expanding and leading ISP based in Manila whose main thrust is to provide excellent and reliable Internet access, urgently needs the following positions...

Marketing Assistant

- M/F, preferably 25 years old and below
- A Graduate of Advertising, Business Administration pref. Marketing major, or any business related courses
- Had earned at least 2 years work ng experience attending to Marketing/Brand Management, Advertising, Events and Promo Activities. Should have understanding of Basic Marketing Principles
- Must be computer literate, (MS Word, Excel) Email and Internet proficient, Online or Computer Games know-how is an advantage
- Should have creative yet logical ideas, pleasing personality, well organized, with sense of urgency and versatility

Web Developer

- M/F, preferably 28 years old and below
- Must be adept with PHP, MySQL/MySQL optimization, Photoshop, Dreamweaver, Flash, JavaScript, CSS and with an experience in configuring web servers with IIS and/or Apache is a plus
- Should possess the following qualities i.e., excellent communication skills, well-organized, detail-oriented, positive and enthusiastic, punctual, good interpersonal relationship, willing to learn new skills
- Somebody who could maintain and develop internal and external web pages, property and secondary databases, and can assist in marketing graphics

Compensation package will commensurate to qualifications

Interested applicant should e-mail their resumé with recent picture to career@br-hsys.com or may personally apply from Mondays thru Fridays at the

HR Department
G/F Evernew Bldg.
209 Escoto St. cor. Nueva St.
Binondo, Manila

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- must be successful examinees of 2003 Bar Exams
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- must be willing to be involved in litigation work and in cases involving tax, corporate, banking, civil and other laws

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Pearl Drive cor. Gold Loop, Ortigas Center
Pasig City, Metro Manila

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- Female
- College graduate
- 1-2 years related work experience
- For interview, call 634-8297 - Mrs. Bernabe
- Bring resumé, clearances, transcript of records and recommendations

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Institutional Synergy, Inc.

EXECUTIVE SEARCH SERVICES

Our client is a long-established international non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of children living in dire poverty. In line with their continuous commitment to enhance the services that they provide, they invite highly qualified individuals, imbued with a strong sense of altruism and desire to help the needy, to apply for the following positions:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Must have an MBA or a Masteral degree in Social Work or related degree, with a minimum of 5 year's experience working for an NGO in a senior management role. Should have the charisma and leadership skills to direct and manage the foundation towards the achievement of its goals.

PROGRAMS MANAGER

Must have a Masteral degree in Social Work and a minimum of 5 years' experience in field-based projects, preferably with children.

OPERATIONS MANAGER

Preferably an MBA, with 5 years' experience in a similar capacity, particularly in the area of operations, personnel management and administration, and procurement.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS MANAGER

Must have at least 5 year's relevant experience. With excellent communication skills and able to manage a team of field-based workers and coordinate information flows with a minimum lead-time between the US and the Philippines.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

CPA, with at least 5 years' experience in accounting and financial reporting, knowledge of taxation and preparation of statutory reports, and establishment of internal controls.

Since all positions will be based out of Manila, i.e., in the southern Luzon area, candidates must be willing to relocate. Very good communication and interpersonal skills are additional requisites for all positions.

The company offers a very competitive compensation and benefits package. Qualified applicants may send their resumes, with contact numbers, current and expected pay, and a recent photograph, not later than September 24, 2004, to e-mail address: ist@insync.com.ph or to: Institutional Synergy, Inc., Unit 608, G/F The Tapan Place, Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. (note: We will reply only to those considered for interview)

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- For NCR, Ilocos Region, Cagayan Valley, Bicol Region, Southern Tagalog, Visayas and Mindanao
- Bachelor's Degree Holder
- With relevant sales background in a high-end service industry
- Thorough knowledge of the region
- With strong presentation skills
- With excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- With strong business and maturity, entrepreneurial
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Email address:
recruitment@informatics.com.ph

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- At least 1 year experience in education or training
- Effective communication skills
- Educational units is an advantage

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- For Region, Central, Pangasinan & NCR
- Bachelor's Degree Holder
- Effective negotiation and presentation skills
- Excellent communication & interpersonal skills
- Customer-focused and results-oriented

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So if you are aggressive, quick thinking and disciplined to implement business objective with minimal supervision, then this position may be for you!!

Applicants must be:

- Female or male; 21-35 years old.
- Pleasant and outgoing personality.
- Must possess excellent communication skills and have the ability to explain clearly and concisely product information.
- Self motivated, systematic and analytical.
- Can handle pressure and work with minimal supervision.
- Trustworthy

Send your resume at winewarehouse@pacific.net.ph or visit us at WineDepot, WineDepot Building Ayala Avenue cor. Malugay Street Makati City.

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THE HOME OF THE BEST PHILIPPINE HANDICRAFTS

Is looking for dynamic individuals to fill the positions of

TEAM LEADER

Requirements

- Candidates must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in any field
- At least 1 year managerial experience in retail companies
- Must be Honest, Hardworking, Responsible, Creative and Resourceful
- Should have a pleasing personality
- Results oriented

Responsibilities

- Responsible for overall store operations - conceptualization and effective implementation of business strategies to achieve sales target with full profit and loss accountability for the store
- Shall effectively implement customer service, visual display and inventory control standards

SALES ASSOCIATE

Requirements

- Must be competent, trustworthy, responsible and a team player
- Highly personable - dynamic and with a mature disposition

Send your resume to
Instyle Apparel, Inc.

2F Tesoro Bldg., 1016 Arnaiz Ave. Makati 1223

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING ACCOUNTANT

- female
- passed the CPA licensure exams
- knowledge in financial statement preparation & analysis/computer literate
- with at least 1 year work experience
- should not be more than 30 years old
- good command of written & oral communication skills

The candidate will report directly to the president. She will be required to prepare reports vital to management decisions

Contact person: Myra
Unit 905 Prestige Tower, Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City
636-6327 to 29

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The Global Property Guide

Research Assistants / Writers

- Degree from a reputable school essential (economics, finance or political economy major preferred)
- Must have excellent English-language writing
- Fresh graduates preferred
- Must be internet literate
- Must be genuinely research-oriented
- Must be interested in foreign countries, politics, and cultures
- Must be willing to work in a small office with foreign boss
- Must be willing to take a 1 1/2 hour written exam, to test these skills

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E-mail Bio-Data + two samples of any longer written work + references with current telephone numbers (strictly no application considered without all these) to: wp@pjdids.net

(*The Global Property Guide is a project of Palopay Solutions Sdn Bhd)

IMMEDIATE HIRING

We are in need of:

Account Executives

for our showroom, field/site projects

Qualifications:

- College graduate preferably Architecture or Interior Designer graduate and Landscape Architect
- At least with 2 years experience in Sales and Marketing
- Preferably 22 to 30 years old, male or female

Please apply in person at **Bagna E Caramella**, 4th level Shangri-la Plaza, Mandaluyong City 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Monday to Saturday and look for Ms. Jean Dizon and Helen Imperial. Bring your complete credentials.

- Attractive pay package (Salary + Commission)

We are one of the leading companies in our industry and belong to the top 1,000 corporations in the Philippines

Warehouse Manager

- A relevant degree in distribution/ logistics or equivalent
- At least 4 years in a Warehouse Management position
- Hands-on experience of managing and supervising a busy Warehouse facility and workforce
- Solid proficiency in all Microsoft Office applications
- Proven knowledge of managing stocks of both pre production raw materials and finished goods, stock rotation and control etc. is essential
- Ability to speak Chinese, though not essential would be an advantage
- Must be flexible and willing to work long hours
- Proficiency in writing and speaking English

Warehouse/ Route Trainee

Candidate must possess strong organizational skills, attention to detail, customer service oriented, ability to follow procedures, personable, and ability to work in a warehouse environment. College degree is required. Hardworking and can work with minimum supervision.

Competitive compensation awaits the successful applicants

Please write to:

2255 Chino Rocas Avenue, Makati City
or
P.O. Box MN 2060 Classified Division
Philippine Daily Inquirer
PDI Building, Chino Rocas Avenue
Cor. Mascardo and Vague sts.
Makati City

WANTED:

VB PROGRAMMER

Our company is in need of:

1. Expert Visual Basic 6.0 and VB. Net programmer (must have at least 3 years experience in development and implementation).
2. Must have extensive knowledge in SQL Server 2000 Database Design and Implementation, Foxpro 2.6, Visual Foxpro 6.0, and Crystal Report 9 or 10.
3. Must have at least 3 years experience in system implementation and development using the above languages.
4. Knowledge in PHP, Flash, and Dreamweaver is a plus.
5. Must have knowledge in accounting processes.
6. Must be a team player

Interested parties may contact

Van Ryan Lee
Corinthian Commercial Corporation
T12 Sunvar Plaza Bldg., Amorsolo St., Makati City
816-13-84 / 817-82-11
or send your resume (in word format) to
vanryanlee@corinthiancommercial.com
(Please include at least three character references)

Wanted Civil Engineers

OSK Architects & Engineers based in Okinawa Japan is in need of two (2) licensed Civil Engineer

- with at least 5 years working experience to work
- all aspects of Civil Engineering design work
- knowledge in U.S. Military Design Criteria
- skill in AutoCAD and other design softwares are preferred
- need to be BSCE graduate who belong to top 10% of the graduating class

Starting monthly salary is JPY 250,000 to 400,000 (PHP 125,000 to 200,000) plus housing allowance with round trip economy ticket from Okinawa to Manila every year with 20 days paid vacation.

E-mail bio data with pictures, employment certificate and scanned transcript to osk@myb.biglobe.ne.jp or juntumala@mbf.ocn.ne.jp Attention: Jun Tumala

or Fax at (8198)935-5974. Employer will be in Makati end of September to interview qualifying applicants.



Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement
Building rural capacities for sustainability

The Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that has been operating for over 50 years in rural development. PRRM aims to enhance the capacities of rural communities in the planning, advocacy and implementation of sustainable development, through an integrated program of education, livelihood, health, natural resource management and self-governance.

We are currently looking for competent individuals for the following positions:

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST

- Must be a graduate of environmental or natural sciences, or any related course must have had at least 3 years work experience in ENRM and must have good conceptual and analytical ability in environmental and natural resource assessment, impact assessment technology and risk assessment and/or environmental management
- The ENRM Specialist establishes and maintains a working data/information base consisting of key macro ENRM variables, conducts policy analysis and research, develops proposals and projects in the development of training modules

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION AND ADVOCACY SPECIALIST

- Must be a graduate of Political Science, Economics or Social Sciences course and must have had at least 3 years work experience in development cooperation and advocacy work
- The DCA Specialist provides technical assistance in monitoring, evaluation and advocacy work of PRRM at the global, national and local levels

RESOURCE ECONOMIST

- Must be a graduate of resource economics or development economics or any related field must have had at least 3 years relevant work experience and must have extensive knowledge of concepts, values and strategies associated with the management and sustainable use of natural resources and sustainable development
- The RE Specialist provides technical assistance in monitoring, evaluation and advocacy work of PRRM at the global, national and local levels

SECRETARY

- Must have had at least one year experience in secretarial work.
- Must hold a college degree

Please send your application letter and resume by or before Sept. 24, 2004 to:

PRRM Human Resource Management and Development Unit
PRRM Building 56 Walker Avenue, 2nd Floor, Dr. Lacson St. - Cebu City
Fax No. (02) 372-8955 OR e-mail to hrm@prrm.org Website: www.prrm.org

DOCUMENTATION ASSISTANT

Property Developer over 25 yrs. in business seeks Applicants with excellent writing skills, computer proficient, not more than 25 yrs. old, preferably graduate of A.B. English or Legal Management. Mail detailed bio-data, recent 2x2 photo, college transcript of records & other credentials to: Central P.O. Box 1937, 1259 Makati City

MACRO SVC Inc.

Can't find a job?... Age is not a problem...
Then call or visit us...

We are a premier service provider for International clients. We are seeking for our outbound campaign dynamic people with:

- Very Good communication skills in English
- Preferably with telemarketing experience but not essential
- Assertive and willingness to work

Successful applicants will have on the job training, enjoy the campaign's 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM schedule & weekend off, and earn as much as Php 20,000 a month.

MacroSVC Inc.

409 Cityland 10 Tower1, 158 HV Dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Tel. No. 7532423 or 7531750

THE COMPANY

The joint companies of Central Lumber Corporation, a Cebu-based company and a recognized name in the construction supply industry, and Mc Alpines Limited, one of the three largest, privately owned sawmilling, timber and building groups in New Zealand, is in need of:

TERRITORY MANAGERS

To promote and sell the company's high quality treated, join dried wood products for construction to be architectural profession.

THE CANDIDATES WE ARE INTERESTED IN SHOULD BE:

- Dynamic, aggressive and with good communication skills
- Graduate of any Bachelor Science Degree
- Willing to learn and open to constructive criticism
- Has the ability to blend well with people
- Has a good computer skill

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING:

- A compensation package that is competitive in the industry
- Complete training in sales and territory management
- Orientation training in the Cebu home office
- Career growth opportunities

GET A CHANCE TO START A CAREER IN SALES, THE RIGHT WAY

Please send your resume or come and visit us at:

Amourwood Office

1208 12th Fl., Mega Plaza Bldg.
Cec. ADB and Garnet Sts., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Telephone: 914-0097, 687-7624



RIOFIL CORPORATION

A progressive construction company, is urgently in need of

CIVIL ENGINEERS

Male, 26 to 35 years old, at least 5 years experience gained from building construction, computer proficient, CE license an advantage.

Screening & interviews will start on September 13, 2004. Interested parties may personally submit their resume and other pertinent credentials to Personnel & General Affairs Department, 2802 Antel Global Corp. Ctr. J. Vargas Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City

LAWYERS

WITH 1 TO 2 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN LITIGATION AND GOOD WRITING SKILLS NEEDED BY LAW FIRM BASED AT THE PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE CENTRE IN ORTIGAS. GUARANTEED MINIMUM YEARLY INCOME P270,000. Call Joyce 6346487 to 89 for Appointment.



Medecins Sans Frontieres, a non-profit, international non-governmental humanitarian organization, accredited by the Department of Health (DOH), whose objective is to bring medical aid to population in crisis, is now in need of staff for the Street Children Project in Manila

Two (2) Registered Nurse

- QUALIFICATIONS:**
- Implementation of street-based and/or community-based health strategies
 - Experienced in working with abused children
 - Strong background in adolescent reproductive health
 - Good clinical experience
 - Can work with initiative but also within multi-disciplinary team setting
 - Experienced in working with psychological program, preferred

WE OFFER:

- Chance to work with an international organization (INGO) with the future potential to work overseas depending on qualifications and experience
- Attractive salary and benefits

Please submit your resume as soon as possible. Call MSP or e-mail / fax the resume to the above address

CLEAN CITY INCORPORATED, an established company engaged in Janitorial Services is in need of a highly qualified applicants for the following positions:

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course
- With at least 2 years work experience in all facet of HR such as compensation & benefits, recruitment, training, employee relations, organizational development and labor laws.
- With excellent oral and written communication skills.

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

- Certified Public Accountant
- With at least 2 years experience in general accounting

SALES MANAGER

- Preferably Female
- Graduate of a business related course, preferably Marketing and/or Sales
- With at least 2 years work experience as Marketing or Sales Manager

If you're the person we're looking for, apply personally and submit your resume with 2x2 picture & TOR to:

HRD Department- look for Ms. Perillo S. Cunanan
5 G. Rayas Street, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. No. 723-34 78/96 724-77-60

INTERNATIONAL QUALITY MANPOWER SERVICES, INC.
I.Q.MAN
 2nd & 4th Floor Shipping Center Bldg.
 707 A. Soriano Ave., Intramuros Manila, Philippines
 Tel. Nos.: (632) 527-5445 to 46; (632) 404-1014 to 17
 Cell #: (0918) 928-3936 - Fax: (632) 527-5447
 E-Mail Address: iqman-usa@cfsharp.com

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The FASTEST & SUREST WAY

invites all

RN & CGFNS or NCLEX PASSERS

Who are seeking IMMIGRATION-BASED DIRECT HOSPITAL EMPLOYMENT to be considered for our VIDEO-CONFERENCE INTERVIEWS with our client hospitals and be placed in shortest time with absolutely no placement and processing fees.

DIRECT HOSPITAL CLIENTS

SINAI HOSPITAL OF BALTIMORE in Baltimore, Maryland
 THOMASON GENERAL HOSPITAL in El Paso, Texas
 NORTHWEST HOSPITAL CENTER in Randallstown, Maryland
 DRISCOLL CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL in Corpus Christi, Texas
 UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN HOSPITALS & CLINICS in Madison, Wisconsin
 NORTHWEST TEXAS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM in Amarillo, Texas
 MERCY HOSPITAL in Pennsylvania
 LEVINDALE HOSPITAL in Baltimore Maryland

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I.Q.MAN CEBU
 3P Cherry Court Bldg. Gen. Macaruna Ave.
 Tel. Nos. (032) 2340697; Fax: (032) 2340693
 E-Mail: iqmancebu@cfsharp.com

I.Q.MAN DAVAO
 Mezzanine Floor, L & R Bldg. J.P. Laurel Ave. Bajala
 Tel. Nos. (033) 3376298; Fax: (033) 3376292
 E-Mail: iqmandavao@cfsharp.com

I.Q.MAN II OILO
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 Tel. Nos. (033) 3376298; Fax: (033) 3376299
 E-Mail: iqmanilo@cfsharp.com

I.Q.MAN CAGAYAN DE ORO
 2F, MY Bldg. Tansa Cor. Del Pilar St.
 Tel. Nos. (088) 858-1028; Fax: (088) 858-1028
 E-Mail: iqmancdo@cfsharp.com

I.Q.MAN BACULOD
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 Tel. Nos. (034) 3322598; Fax: (034) 7080575
 E-Mail: iqmanbaculod@cfsharp.com

I.Q.MAN DAVAO
 3F Ayala Bldg., Cor. Rivera & Zamora Sts.
 Tel. Nos. (075) 5234268; Fax: (075) 523 4268
 E-Mail: iqmandavau@cfsharp.com

"I.Q.MAN ang Katuparan ng Inyong Mga Pangarap"

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PHIL TOWN

PHILIPPINE TOWNSHIPS, INC.
 A Subsidiary of RFM Corporation

SALES MANAGER - (SM)

Male or Female at least 28-35 years old; graduate of any 4 year course from a reputable school; minimum 2 years supervisory or managerial experience with a proven track record in real estate business; shall be in-charge of initiating, planning, developing, coordinating and executing the sales and marketing opportunities; indirectly but ultimately responsible for the direction and coordination of the company's sales force and achievement of sales targets; must be goal oriented, ambitious and driven to achieve high-performance; strong leadership potential and must have a passion for excellence; good interpersonal, communication and presentation skills; adept in computer applications.

INVESTMENT CONSULTANTS (BROKERS) - (IC)

Male or Female, graduate of any 4 year course; experience in sales preferably from the same industry; will market and sell residential properties; willing to work long hours and do fieldwork; possesses excellent interpersonal and communication skills; must be flexible, aggressive, dynamic and a team-player; creative, proactive and enterprising.

IN HOUSE PROPERTY CONSULTANTS - (PC)

Male or Female, 23-28 years old; graduate of any 4 year course; 2 years sales experience; will market and sell residential properties; sources, clients and follow up on sales inquiries; willing to work long hours and do fieldwork; possesses excellent interpersonal and communication skills; must be flexible, aggressive, dynamic and a team-player; creative, proactive and enterprising.

THESE ARE URGENT REQUIREMENTS. Respondents are requested to send their resume, transcript of records and recent 2 x 2 photo to the following addresses:

Via mail: (please indicate code on the envelope)
 Philtown - HRD,
 6/F RFM Corporation
 corner Pioneer & Sheridan Sts.
 Mandaluyong City

Via e-mail:
 phil.hrd@philtown

* We will respond to qualified candidates ONLY.

PHILIPPINE TOWNSHIPS, INC., one of the nation's growing real-estate developers, known for its undertakings in Fort Bonifacio- ONE MCKINLEY PLACE AND FAIRWAYS TOWER and METROPOLITAN ATHLETIC CLUB is inviting dynamic, self-driven individuals who will form part of our high-performance team.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

"MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST"

Key Results Area:

- Create and develop maximum sales in hospital laboratory through complete and aggressive coverage
- Explore business potentials for the company
- Develop and strengthen company's presence with existing and potential customers
- Able to build good and long term customer relationship fairly and profitably
- Pro-actively promotes the company's products and services

Qualifications:

- Male/Female
- Must be a B.S. Medical Technology graduate or any related course. Fresh graduates are also welcome.
- Excellent communication skills
- Must be aggressive and highly motivated
- Has a leadership quality, possess good judgment, excellent negotiation skills, and inter-personal skills and with pleasing personality
- Willing to do field work and to travel abroad

- Expect immediate interview

GULL-BERN CORPORATION

24 14 United St. Boma Kapolyo Pasig City
 ☎ 02-633-95-89/746-14-70
 kinfo@gull-bern.com.ph

A growing construction firm wants qualified applicants for the following positions.

Civil Engineers **Geodetic Engineer**
Instrument Man **Rodman**
Accountants **Bookkeeper**

Experience, Relevant License and Computer literacy a must. Please send cover letter, transcript and resume with 2x2 picture to: Box 100, c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer, Classifieds Ads, 5th Flr. Bldg. B, SM-Megamall, Edsa, Mandaluyong City

Please indicate current salary.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

FOR A BIG PHARMA COMPANY

Accounting Assistant

- Female College Graduate of Accountancy or any Computer-Related Course
- 1 to 2 yrs work experience, with expertise in Microsoft Excel

Data Encoder

- Female College Graduate of any Computer-Related Course
- 1 to 2 yrs work experience as Data Encoder or IT Staff, with expertise in Microsoft Excel

Production Line Worker

- College Graduate or at least 2 years college of a Science Course
- Single, 5' female or 5'4" male
- Preferably with experience as production line

Receptionist

- College Graduate or at least 2 years college
- Female, at least 5'2" tall
- With pleasing personality and good communication skills

Apply personally at the Recruitment Office:
 3F Santa Kapolyo Bldg.,
 59 West Capitol Drive,
 Boma Kapolyo, Pasig City Tel. 747-2222
 Mondays to Fridays

Bring 2 sets of bio-data with picture.

URGENTLY NEEDED!

MARKETING AGENTS

For Manpower Services

- Preferably
 - With experience in this field
 - computer literate
- Call 921-6921 • 926-9844 • 929-1872
 Look for Linda, Carlos

A distinguished Manufacturer for telecommunications equipment is presently hiring additional workforce

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- Fresh graduate/undergraduate of any Engineering course or Interior Design or equivalent work experience
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Computer literate
- Willing to do field work
- Hardworking, trustworthy, organized and with pleasing personality
- Independent and can work with minimal supervision
- Preferably female, between 21 to 25 years old

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR

- Fresh graduate/undergraduate of Industrial Engineering
- Knowledgeable in QC Tools, PPC & MTS
- Computer literate
- Good interpersonal skills, competent, responsible and organized
- Willing to learn and be trained
- Possess the ability to work under pressure
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Preferably female, between 21 to 25 years old

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resume with recent 2x2 photo and other related documents to:

45-B Piland Drive, Brgy. Pasong Tama, Tandang Sora, Q.C. 1116
 Tel. No. 935-7133 / 951-4132
 or thru: juicyam888@yahoo.com



INFORMATICS

CENTER BUSINESS MANAGER

- Must have a minimum of 2 years experience in Sales and Marketing management especially in leading a sales team in school, pre-need or any other business
- Must be able to develop and implement a CENTER BUSINESS PLAN including effective marketing strategies
- Must have strong communication skills
- Must be willing to work in Parañaque

COURSE CONSULTANTS

- 21 to 30 years old; must be innovative
- At least one year experience in the field of sales and marketing an advantage
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Must have a pleasing personality and can deal with individual and corporate clients
- Hardworking and willing to go on field

PLEASE SEND YOUR RESUMES WITH ID PICTURE TO:

mranda@info.com.ph

or mail to: 2/F Bldg. B, SM City Bicutan, Parañaque



POS SYSTEM PROVIDER

IMMEDIATE HIRING

HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT

- ❖ Female at least 23-27 yrs. Old / Single with pleasing personality.
- ❖ Able to administer Psychometric Test
- ❖ Knowledgeable in all aspect of Recruitment Process.
- ❖ Has good oral / written communication and presentation skills.
- ❖ Background in Compensation and Benefits is an Advantage.

Interested applicants may send their resume with recent photo via e-mail.

JIMAC, INCORPORATED

HR DEPARTMENT

Penthouse floor TC Plaza Building
 near cor. Cordillera St. Quezon Ave., Quezon City
 Tel No. 742-6832, 742-6840 loc. 117
 e-mail address: hr@jimac-inc.com

HIRING :: PRODUCTION MANAGERS AND PRODUCTION SUPERVISORS for seafood export processing plant

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Minimum 1 year work experience in seafood industry, preferably with tuna fish from reputable processing & export companies
 - Experience in frozen tuna seafood export processing, skilled with hands-on knowledge on cutting & production operations
 - Experience in tasteless wood smoke processing techniques
 - Good interpersonal relations
 - Computer skills an advantage
 - Willing to travel and be deployed on assignments
- U Applicants from General Santos City, Davao City, all seafood producing regions, including Manila, are welcome. Interview schedules & venues for shortlisted candidates will be advised at a later date and will be conducted at their respective provinces.

Interested parties can send their applications with resume/biodata and passport size photos by post or via e-mail to IanHFC

Post : P.O. Box 2108

Q.C. Central Post Office

1161 Q.C. Philippines

E-mail : sendapplications@yahoo.com

A tutorial center in trece hills needs:

- MATH, SCIENCE & ENGLISH TUTORS / TEACHERS
- OFFICE PERSONNEL
- female, 20 to 25 years old
- must be a College graduate
- full time
- patient & hardworking

Interested applicants,

pls. call:

744-1233 • 744-1232

• 722-9454

PROJECT ENGINEER

Male 30-35 years old, at least 5'10", with pleasing personality. Good oral and written communication skills in English required. Well-versed in general construction, with working knowledge in Mechanical, Electrical & Sanitary Engineering and Architecture works. Very good in Plan interpretation and Estimate. Must be willing to work long hours. Can work without supervision.

Interested applicants,

pls. call:

744-1233 • 744-1232

• 722-9454

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

PROJECT ENGINEER

Male, Civil Engineer, must have 5 years experience in building construction. Experience in finishing works is an advantage. Can handle 2 or more projects. Must be resourceful and has the ability to work under pressure. Can estimate project requirements.

We offer a highly attractive compensation, incentive & bonuses commensurate to performance.

ACCOUNTING STAFF

Female, 22-28 years old, Accounting graduate, must have at least 2 years experience in general accounting. Computer literate. Resident of Quezon City is an advantage.

Call 921-9325/927-3796 for Inquiries & schedule of interview.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

FOR EXPANSION IN METRO MANILA, SOUTHERN & NORTHERN LUZON

OFFICE TRAINEES:

- Loan Processor, Posting Clerk, Bookkeeper
- Female, Single, not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of any business course
- Willing to be assigned in different areas
- With Pleasing Personality, Hardworking and Trustworthy

FIELD TRAINEES:

- Collector, Credit Investigator, Marketing Man
- Male, not more than 30 years old
- At least college level preferably college graduate
- Knows how to drive motorcycle, with Professional/Non-professional license
- Willing to be assigned in different areas
- Hardworking, Trustworthy & can work under pressure

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES:

- Graduate of Business Course
- Preferably with Marketing experience in financial institutions
- Willing to be assigned in different areas
- Willing to undergo training
- Can lead and motivate people

If qualified, send your resume to or apply in person at Advance Credit Corporation 23rd Flr., Tower 1, The Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Ave. cor. Paseo de Roxas, Makati City. Look for Ms. Fe Jose or

Advance Credit Corporation Melendo Ext'n. cor. 29th Street, Kapitlan Pepe Subd., Cabanatuan City. Look for Ms. Maribel Calica



PNCC Skyway Corporation

The Premier tollway operator in the Philippines

Skyway Loop, Dona Soledad Ave., Bicutan, Parañaque City - Tel. Nos. 824-2452, 824-2282 Loc. 387 & 388 (Beside SM Bicutan)

PNCC Skyway Corporation is in need of the following positions for immediate hiring.

Legal Assistant (1)

- Male/Female, Single/Married
- 22-30 Y/O
- College Graduate with earned units in law
- 2-3 yrs. in legal & administrative function
- Proficient in oral & written communication
- Computer Literate
- With good moral character

Senior Auditor (1)

- Male/Female, Single/Married, 25-30 Y/O
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- With at least 3 years experience in Internal and External auditing

HR Assistant

- Male/Female, Single/Married 23-30 Y/O
- College Graduate, preferably Psychology or Behavioral Science or any related course
- 1 to 2 year experience in training and other related works.

Interested applicants may submit resume with latest 2x2 pictures and other credentials at the HRD Office, Training & Recruitment Section.

IBB

Marketing Assistant, Philippines

The International Broadcasting Bureau (IBB), a part of the United States Government, is looking for a Marketing Assistant in Manila to perform a wide variety of routine marketing related activities. The IBB includes the Voice of America radio and television service, one of the largest news-gathering organizations in the world and a leader in providing news and entertainment programs around the globe.

Applicant MUST have an in-depth knowledge of the media environment in the Philippines; 3 years experience working for a broadcast station, excellent interpersonal and negotiation skills, be able to travel occasionally; be fluent in spoken and written English, be able to work independently with little supervision. Applicant must be mature, resourceful, have initiative, etc.

Responsibilities: Assist Regional Marketing Director (RMO) in Bangkok, maintain close contacts with regional/L.S. IBB offices. Update IBB affiliate database, Monitor and research media developments in the Philippines; monitor VOA broadcast on various stations in the Philippines, arrange for equipment installation, write weekly reports; negotiate rebroadcast agreements & perform other duties as assigned.

Fax your detailed resume and letter to Joyce Ngoh at 66-2-205-5707, send by email to jngoh@bb-bkk.org or mail it to IBB, The Millenia Bldg., Run 1501, 62 Langsun Rd., Bangkok 10330, Thailand. Applications must be received by close of business on September 24, 2004.



Promo Dimensions Inc.

is now Hiring: MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

- Male/Female
- College Graduates
- Three Months training with pay
- Accounting units required
- No experience necessary

You can e-mail your resume at pdl.it@mozcom.com or call us at 631-9404. Look for Ms. Marife or Leah. You may also apply in person at #122 Shaw Blvd., Pasig City (beside PS Bank).



AMERICA'S FAVORITE BURGER CHAIN IS NOW HIRING!

If you want better opportunities, faster career growth and are hot to get world-class training, be part of our growing network.

LOCAL RESTAURANT MARKETING :

- ❖ Male or Female not more than 25 years old
- ❖ Graduate of any four-year course preferably BS. Marketing/Tourism/HRM/Bus. Admin
- ❖ Must possess creativity and pleasing personality
- ❖ With good oral and written communication skills
- ❖ Willing to work on long hours and different shifts if necessary
- ❖ Residents of Metro Manila and Cavite Area will be given preference.

All candidates must be energetic, friendly, and verbose. They should have good interpersonal skills. They must also be proactive and team players.

We offer a package of salary and benefits competitive to the industry. We also offer prospects of long term career where individuals can aim for the highest possible levels.

Interested applicants should mail their resumé with 2x2 photo and transcript to:

Human Resources Department
PERF Restaurants Inc. - Burger King
2/F Topy Bldg #3 Economia St.
Bagumbayan (Libis) QC 1110

Or email their comprehensive resume in text format and position applying for to: hrd_bk@philking.com.ph

WE WILL ONLY RESPOND TO QUALIFIED APPLICANTS.

John Clements Consultants, Inc.

We are inviting highly competent, results-oriented and mainframe professionals to apply for the following positions:

IBM Mainframe Systems Engineers (CMOS):	2+ years of Mainframe (OS/390 or z/OS) experience with installation or maintenance of Operating System using SMP/E. Knowledge of OS subsystems (JES, RACF or ACF2, GRS or MHLManager, a tape manager (CA-1, TLMS, ControlM VTS, or ATL) requested. Familiarity with tools such as HCD, Omegamon, SYSVIEW, ALC or REXX a significant plus.
IBM Mainframe Products Engineers (CMOS):	2+ years of fundamental knowledge of IBM Operating System basics, includes familiarity with PARMLIB, PROCLIB, ISPF skills. SDSF IBM Utilities and JCL. Experience with Mainframe Products (such as CA-7, SYSVIEW, Panvalet, EZSeries, Syncsort, Fileaid, JCLcheck, Librarian, Control/MRO/D) installation & customization is a significant plus.
IBM Mainframe DB2 DBA:	2+ yrs of OS/390 administration, DB2 maintenance, SQL tuning & performance analysis. TSO & ISPF DB2 admin tools such as CA Platinum a plus. Working knowledge of ADABAS, Datascan, IDMS, Supra a plus.
IMS DBA:	Experience in SMP/E, ISPF & JCL with knowledge of IMS on-line system, IMS Database backup, Recovery & Reorganization. Knowledge of Assembler & COBOL programming language will be an added advantage.
CICS Engineers:	2+ years of experience in SMP/E & ISPF. Must have CICS Transaction Server and/or MQSeries systems installation & support; experience (2+ yrs of maintenance and problem diagnosis experience). Support products installation & customization on OS/390 platforms.
IBM Mainframe VTAM & TCP/IP System Engineers:	VTAM & TCP/IP on OS/390 or z/OS, Session Managers, VPS, Connect Direct software. Knowledge of SNA, SMI, TCP/IP, NCP, Netview VPS, SuperSession, Connect Direct. Good exposure to Mainframe System Administration, TCP/IP and SNA configurations and software with knowledge of communication protocols required. Familiarity with FEP, NCP, Net View, NDM, or other mainframe communications software a plus. 2+ years experience in the above areas required.
Communication Engineers:	Good exposure to Mainframe System Administration, TCP/IP and SNA configurations and software with knowledge of communication protocols required. Familiarity with FEP, NCP, Net View, NDM, or other mainframe communications software a plus. 2+ years experience is required.
Team Leads/Team Members:	3 to 7 years of mainframe computer operations experience, sound knowledge of Scheduling and Job Processing languages and automated scheduling techniques. ZEXE, CA-7, CA-11, JCL.
Mainframe Storage Administrators:	Assist with planning, implementing configurations and monitoring Storage to ensure optimum performance & capacity utilization. Implement & support Backup, and Restore policies and participate in Disaster Recovery Process. Install and Maintain Storage Enclosures.
Senior Network Engineers:	Minimum of 5 yrs experience in network engineering, troubleshooting, design & integration, with thorough knowledge in multiprotocol routing & switching with experience in Cisco routers, switches, firewalls, VPN concentrators. Experience in Nortel routers, Site Manager switches, connectivity BGP, OSPF, ATM, Frame Relay, DSLAM, SNA, ISDN & Telco troubleshooting expected. NOC experience a plus.

All these positions require non-rotating night shift work. English proficiency is a must. These are mainframe operating system's engineering roles not application roles. Please email your applications immediately to the address indicated below.



A division of John Clements Consultants, Inc.

PROFESSIONAL STAFFERS

Level 12B, LKG Tower 6801 Ayala Avenue Makati City
Telephone: (632) 884-1227 884-1167
Email Address: MLResumes@acs-inc.com
www.johnclements.com

Jumpstart a career in

Java & Oracle

Why & How?

Have you been following the job market? Demand for IT professionals is growing at a remarkable rate.

We are looking at a global industry where millions of jobs are created every year. The US alone generates demand for more than a million IT workers annually. In the Philippines, it is not uncommon to see medium to large-sized companies recruiting hundreds of professionals year after year.

Java and Oracle technologists are taking an ever-increasing share of the rapidly growing IT job market. Consider this, Java technology is in 100% of the Fortune 500 companies. Java is so prevalent, 74% of all professional developers use it as their primary development language. Oracle, on the other hand, leads in the database management solutions arena. Everyday the world relies on Oracle to get trade, travel, communications, and business going.

Now, let's consider your career.

If you are thinking of transitioning your career into IT, or if you are already in IT and are looking at enhancing your job prospects, Java and Oracle are clearly your best options. Come to Phoenix One today and we will have you hit the ground running in no time.

At PX1, we understand that most newcomers are faced with the dilemma of not being able to get a job without experience and not being able to get experience without a job. That is why we have partnered with the most reputable names in the

industry to bring you project-based training programs that will put you in good stead when you start applying for a job.

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SVI

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PORTWEST TECHNOLOGIES

PX1 SCHOLARSHIPS

This month, PX1 is offering scholarships on the Oracle DBA and Java Enterprise Developer programs. 15% to 100% grants are given to qualified candidates who will pass a written exam and an interview.

Applications will be accepted until September 17, 2004. Apply now!

MAKATI: 830-3000 LG/F Salvatierra D. Ty Tower, Paseo de Roxas cor. Ponce de Leon Village, Makati City
ORTIGAS: 889-1189 G/F Greenrich Mansion, Lourdes St. cor. Pearl Drive, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
ALABANG: 775-7001 2/F Doña Maria Building, Alabang-Zapote Road, Alabang, Muntinlupa City

KUWAIT AIRWAYS
A prestigious airline KUWAIT AIRWAYS CORPORATION in Kuwait with POEA Accred. No. 72147 is inviting applicants for the following position:

GROUND STEWARDESS

Minimum Qualifications:

- ☐ Graduate category A or High School with (3) years experience
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- ☐ Age 24-30 years old; Enthusiastic and with pleasing personality
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Former teacher exemplifies excellence in human resources

By Candy G. Villanueva
Contributor

HR FOCUS

"SHE TAUGHT us that in each task that must be done, there is opportunity. She always wants us to see the task not as a burden, but as an encouragement to be effective," says Lany Evangelista, human resources officer and team member of Elizabeth Bondad's Human Resources Management (HRM) group.

This is one of the many work principles that Elizabeth Bondad instills in her team. As HRM Group Head of Robinsons Savings Bank, Bondad makes sure that her team tackles whatever responsibility they have with a positive attitude. The result is a driven dynamic team that is the backbone of a company that aims to be one of the best consumer banks in the country.

One of Robinsons Savings Bank's goals is to be a company that ensures the competency of people. Bondad supports this vision with her expertise in human resources, banking on her 19 years of experience and an educational background in education, human resource development and organization development. "With my position, I help management conceptualize value-enhancing HR programs and oversee the development and implementation of such," says Bondad.

Early career

It was by accident that Bondad stumbled upon her career in human resources. Bondad has a degree in Bachelor of Science in Education from the Divine Word College

at San Jose, Occidental Mindoro. A magna cum laude Mathematics major and licensed teacher, Bondad found that she could teach beyond the four walls of the classroom. She taught Math and English to high school students in her native town for a year before realizing that there was a bigger world out there to explore. She saw training as an avenue for her passion to impart knowledge and left the quiet life of Occidental Mindoro.

Her first job away from the rural life of Mindoro was as a personnel research assistant for PCIBank in Makati. "I was then eyeing a post in training, which I know was related to teaching," recalls Bondad. But fate had better plans for her. She was soon promoted to the position of personnel research officer, where she immersed herself in the development of personnel programs and policies like employee compensation and benefits, and performance appraisal.

Slowly, Bondad realized that her true calling was in the human resources field. For several more years, she devoted herself to the industry, even as she moved to Bankard, Inc. "I think I found my place in the HR field. I love it here," confesses the former teacher. Quickly, Bondad moved up the ranks and became assistant vice president of HRM. In April

2002, she moved to Robinsons Savings Bank to head the HRM group.

Responsibilities

Bondad has no regrets leaving Mindoro and the humble but noble vocation of teaching. Her team and the Robinsons Savings Bank employees are now her new brood of students, who learn principles of leadership and a positive attitude towards work from her. As the HRM's Group Head, Bondad handles the full range of human resources functions from recruitment and selection, compensation/benefits design and development, personnel policy development and implementation, culture formation, performance management, employee relations to training and development.

"I love how my work allows me to make a difference in the life and career of employees. At the same time, it enables me to actively help steer the bank to where it wants to go," voices the bank's AVP. To be able to make a difference in the life of the employees, Bondad claims that one has to have the heart, flexibility and passion for the job. She says you have to have a heart that is "bold enough to get your programs approved and implemented yet soft enough to be able to care for and be patient with people."

For her, flexibility also plays an important role in human resource management especially in dealing with different types of personalities, going from macro to micro

management and trying to consider and reconcile the employee's view and company's view. "One has to have passion that will see you through tough times and there will be many," Bondad says knowingly. She deals with difficulties by taking problems analytically, heavily relying on her strengths on analysis, planning and strategies. "I am a people-person but I use my head more. One would expect an HR head to be the other way around I think."

Motivated team

Instead of using the blackboard, the former Math and English instructor uses examples to teach. She exemplifies excellence and passion for the job. To motivate her team of four, she gives them freedom to express themselves and demonstrates trust in their capabilities. "I believe I give them challenging responsibilities, support them in their endeavors and leave them be. I think motivation should come from within oneself," explains Bondad.

The result is a unique independent team who are result-driven and innovative. The HR group is responsible for the well-being of over 280 employees. Each one in the group has his or her own strength but at the same time, they blend and compliment each other. "Each one of us has our own expertise, knowledge, skills and personalities but we work together for one goal—that is to be the HR that our employees expect or want us to be," confirms Marichu Villareal, Bondad's compensation and benefits



BONDAD

RUDY ESPERAS

officer.

In her goal to create a culture of excellence and service quality in the company, Bondad struggles to encourage open communication, inspire teamwork, reward good performance and create outstanding leaders. Is she succeeding? Her team affirms this by saying, "She practices an open-door policy. She sees to it that communication lines are open. Hence, we can speak to her anytime be it official or personal matters," answers Lany Evangelista.

"Ms Bondad compliments us. She says good things about our work and she makes a follow-up on every task that has to be done. So, it's like having

a PDA, keeping our checklist updated," attests Carolyn Linao of Training and Communications.

Even the group's training officer, Christine Renton, has only good things to say about their boss. "She is a good listener and is a balanced person," claims Renton. Villareal adds, "She also teaches us to be the best in everything that we do."

But even without talking to her staff, the look of the company's relaxed but highly energized environment alone is evidence that without a doubt, Bondad has successfully cultivated an atmosphere conducive for learning, growth and development.

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Getting fired: An opportunity for change and growth

By Randall S. Hansen, PhD

THE WORDS that strike fear in all working persons—fired, terminated, laid off, let go, restructured, dismissed, down sized, rightsized—mean only one thing: you're back on the job market looking for new employment opportunities.

While you may find losing your job hard to deal with, most career experts say the best thing you can do is get right back into the job market—even if you've gotten a severance package—rather than sit around being discouraged. And you shouldn't be discouraged—look at this firing as a chance to start anew with a better opportunity.

How do you deal with being fired or downsized in terms of your resumé and job hunting? That's what this article is all about—getting you in shape to find an even better job than the one you had previously. What follows is the career tune-up checklist.

1. **Decide on a career path or change.** If you loved your last position and the industry you worked in, then, you can move to the next point. But, if you weren't happy, now is the time to think about a career change. What kind of transferable skills did you acquire from your previous employment? For example, if you worked in a college admissions office, but now want to get into sales, you have valuable sales and people skills—transferable skills from one position to another. If you're not sure what you want to do, you should do some self-assessment. You can find some great career assessment tests on the Web.

2. **Tune up that resumé.** Ideally, you've been keeping

your resumé current, but if you have not, now is the time to take a hard look at it. Find some great resumé resources, then:

- The first thing you need to decide is whether to include the job from which you were terminated on your resumé. In most cases, you should include the job—unless you only worked there a short period of time (less than three months). Show an end date of your previous job. Focus on your accomplishments and achievements.

- Consider adding—if you don't already have these sections—a key accomplishments and transferable skills sections for your resumé. Positioning these sections at the top of your resumé also means you can downplay your actual employment history ... or at least make it secondary to your accomplishments and skills. A functional resumé, rather than a traditional chronological resumé, will also serve this purpose.

- Develop both a traditional formatted resumé and a scannable (text-only) resumé. Since job hunting has expanded greatly to include traditional methods as well as online methods, you really need to have both types.

- Get your resumé critiqued. Ask someone in your network—possibly a former boss or college career office (most work with alumni) to review your new resumé and offer constructive criticism. We also offer professional resumé critiques.

3. **Resolve whether you are staying or relocating.** Now is the time to think about whether enough opportunities exist where you currently live, or whether you need or want to relocate.

4. **Network, network, net-**

work. Tell everyone you know that you are in the job market again. You don't need to tell them you were fired if you don't want to, but don't be ashamed of it either, as labor figures indicate that many people have lost (or will lose) their jobs involuntarily. Your network includes your family, friends, former coworkers, former bosses, neighbors, friends of friends—just about anyone. These people may not be able to offer you a new job, but they may know someone who can, so they play a vital role in your job search. And once you find a new job, make sure you keep networking rather than waiting until you don't have a job to do so. Read much more about the art of networking.

5. **Revisit your references.** Depending on the circumstances surrounding your dismissal, you may or may not have a good reference from your former employer. Now is the time—regardless—to revisit your reference list. You need to contact these people (which you should already have done from number 4), inform them that you are again on the job market, and ask if they will still be a reference for you. If you know your former employer might give you a bad reference, it is extremely important that you have other people who will rave about your accomplishments and abilities.

6. **Be prepared to work.** It's a cliché, but looking for a new job is now your full time job. Stay focused and accomplish something every day.

7. **Face the tough question.** Be prepared with an answer when an inter-

viewer asks you why you left your last job. Make sure you can articulate why your last job didn't work out and what you have learned from the experience. Never blame a former supervisor or employer—and don't make excuses.

8. **Be prepared for rejection.** You may be a little extra sensitive because of being fired, but remember that there is always a degree of rejection in any job search—so don't let it get you down. Keep looking forward.

Questions about some of the terminology used in this article? Get more information (definitions and links) on key college, career, and job-search terms by going to our Job-Seeker's Glossary of Job-Hunting Terms.

(Dr. Randall Hansen is currently the webmaster of Quintessential Careers, as well as publisher of its electronic newsletter, QuintZine. He writes a biweekly career advice column under the name, The Career Doctor. He is also a tenured, associate professor of marketing in the School of Business Administration at Stetson University in Deland, Florida. He is a published career expert—and has been for the last 10 years. He is co-author, with Katharine Hansen, of Dynamic Cover Letters. And he has been an employer and consultant dealing with hiring and firing decisions for the past 15 years. He can be reached at randall@quintcareers.com. Copyright by Quintessential Careers. The original article can be found at www.quintcareers.com/getting_fired.html. Reprinted with permission.)



ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

What are the keys to finding a job?

From page 10

brarian and read the business section of your local paper. Don't ask about companies that are hiring. Ask about companies that are doing interesting things or are good to work for.

How do you find opportunities (part 2)? When you hear about an interesting company, approach them. Don't wait for them to hang out a "Help Wanted" sign. With your special mix of talents, they may find a place for you! If not, you'll have gained useful experience and knowledge. And they're apt to know another company you should talk to.

Do you make getting a Job Number 1? Sure, it would

be nice to sit back while someone else does the legwork. And sure, you've got your current job to do. But if you don't fan the fire under your job search, it will never take off.

I'm no rocket expert, but I can tell you this: you'll get lift-off when you supply the propulsion.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: What is most important in landing a job?

—What you know, 9.8 percent

—Who you know, 44.1 percent

—Your attitude, 45.9 percent

(Mr. Rosner is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)



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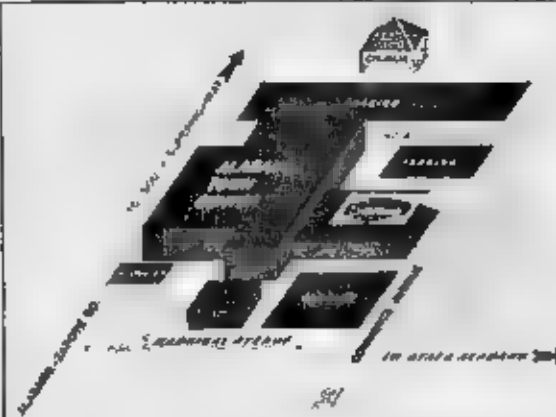
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'I'm being haunted by my past'

By Ernie O. Cecilia

I AM LOOKING for a job, and one of the companies I applied with asked me to submit a list of references in my previous employment. I hesitate to give the list because I didn't have good working relationships with my last two bosses. I am sure that they will not give flattering feedback about me.

Earlier, I almost got a job with a bank—in fact, I was already asked to undergo a pre-employment physical exam. To my surprise, I was advised that they had to resort to an internal hiring at the last minute. My friend who works in that bank told me that the Human Resources department of the bank did a background check with my last two employers. I surmise that my possible employer changed their decision about hiring me because of the negative feedback.

I want this new job, but I am not willing to risk being dumped again due to negative feedback from references in my previous employment. Next time I write my resumé, can I just delete these last two work experiences?

Lady with a "Past"

It is common practice among human resource practitioners to conduct "background information" (BI) check on job applicants, especially in key or critical positions (highly technical or managerial). This is mostly true in companies (banks, etc.), where trust and integrity are very important considerations in hiring.

There is an unwritten code of honesty and full disclosure among HR practitioners in making feedback about their employees or ex-employees. It is, therefore, difficult for your past employers to give positive feedback about you when your relationships with them were not exactly harmonious.

Reasons for check

There are good reasons why HR practitioners resort to BI checks on job applicants. Firstly, past performance is one of the predictors of future performance, especially on matters of attitude. While education and training can improve competence, they can hardly change attitude.

Secondly, HR practitioners know that in the Philippines, few managers fire or influence employees to resign. (I am not saying that you suffered either of these consequences.) Many managers, however, are quick to admit that they fire people on questions of integrity and honesty—but very seldom, if at all, on the question of performance.

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mance. Most managers will not directly give a negative feedback about a former employee. The best they usually say is that if the employee would re-apply with them for employment, they would not hire the employee again.

Thirdly, in this day and age, relationship building and relationship nurturing are two of the most important "soft" skills required in many jobs. There is wisdom in team working and many organizations prefer to hire people who are at peace with themselves and with others. Many jobs today require employees to relate with their coworkers and the various publics and therefore, employers value the ability to peacefully work with others.

Fourthly, during the hiring process, the decision-makers try to look for a fit between the job applicant and the organization, not just a fit between the applicant and the job. Jobs are becoming temporary and are constantly reshaped. For an employee to succeed in an organization, there must be a fit between him and the organization.

Importance of EQ

I know of managers who don't hire highly qualified (technical) persons in their organizations if they know that these job applicants will not be able to work with the team. More and more, emotional intelligence (EQ) is proving to be a more critical success factor than intelligence quotient (IQ) in the workplace today.

For those who can still avoid the curse of the irate boss, it is always easy to advise to never burn your bridges. But, it is too late for me to say that to you now that two of your bridges to the past have already been burned. Hind sight is always 20-20, and I can't blame you either. You may have your reasons why you're in such a predicament now.

There are a number of ways you can extricate yourself from the situation. The first is a direct "confrontation" with your past. The second is to "rewrite" history in a way that does not affect your integrity and honesty. The last is to simply ignore the past and apply with many companies and hope that one will not bother making a BI check on you. The second is not very



ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO SUCCAT

ethical and the third is impractical considering that companies you apply with will always find a way to ask around and get to the "truth." Does this mean you're damned for life? No.

Making amends

The direct "confrontation" approach is difficult as well. This will require you to swallow your pride and make peace with your bosses. You have to repair the burned bridges, but you can only do so much. No matter how much you say you're sorry, you can't expect that they will forget the whole thing. If you are sincere enough in your approach, they might just drop a good word or two about you or just keep mum about your stint with them. This is very difficult and you have no guarantee that your bosses will understand and accept your change of heart. But this is the only permanent solution to the problem you seem to have created.

I will not recommend the alternative solution to "rewrite" history—e.g., dropping the work experience with these two companies from your resumé. You have to do some explaining when the HR person sees a wide gap in your work history and they might suspect something amiss. If you apply for a job within the same industry, there is a danger that many other companies must have known about you and your differences with your past bosses. Some job applicants, however, try to do this. But HR people have a way of "filling the blanks" when they check with SSS, BIR, or other agencies that have your personal work history on file.

So, try to muster enough courage to face your past. Be "man" enough to admit mistakes, if there are any, with your bosses and plead your case. Do what you can to change their perception of you. It is in your best interest to make peace with them.

This will, hopefully, cure the kinks in your job application efforts.

Of course, the middle ground is to tell your prospective employer that you can't possibly get a good feedback from your past employers. Cite the reasons for this and pray that they will take your word and desist from doing a BI check with your past employers.

Quote of the week

"During the interview, your integrity as a prospective employee will be probed. The best way to handle this probe is to be very honest and truthful. Do not fake or hide information about yourself when you are asked. Particularly, if you come from another company, there is no point in lying because human resources practitioners will always share information about their employees with other practitioners when requested for a background check. Once the interviewer catches you lying, you can say goodbye to the job." (How to Get a Job, Ernie Cecilia, FPM, 2000.)

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center. He was president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines in 1999. He had written four career books available at popular bookstores. Send feedback to ec4u@edsamail.com.ph)

What are the keys
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WOUNDEDBob
Rosner

You think it's tough to launch a new career? Well, think about Brian Walker. He's trying to launch the world's first homemade space shot. He built a nine-foot tall rocket ship that he hopes to propel 30 miles into the sky using 7,000 pounds of hydrogen peroxide as fuel. You may laugh, but a jet-propulsion expert who reviewed Walker's plans thinks his rocket will fly.

Which offers all of us a lesson. You can use headhunters and career counselors in your job search, but in the end it's your rocket and you've got to provide the fuel. Follow the tips below to ignite your efforts (with or without professionals). Also check in with the man who's launched over six million careers, Dick Bolles, and his classic, "What Color Is Your Parachute?" (10 Speed, 2001).

(Dick also has a website with lots of free resources for job hunters, <http://www.JobHuntersBible.com>). What do you have to offer an employer? Sure, you know how to sell, or type, or program. So do lots of

other people. But there's something special about the way you do those things. Maybe it's your enthusiasm, or your people skills, or your ability to solve problems. Do some soul searching and talk with favorite former bosses and colleagues to pinpoint your unique combination of gifts. It's ironic, most of us know what our company is really good at—but we don't have a clue as to what our own personal gifts are.

How do you find opportunities (part 1)? This may sound as crazy as Brian Walker's rocket, but there are lots of opportunities out there—if you know how to find them. Don't limit your search to the Sunday paper. Network with everybody because you don't know where that critical lead will come from. Talk to friends, family, neighbors, people you run into on the street. Talk to customers, vendors, former competitors. Talk to your local business li-

WHATAREP.9

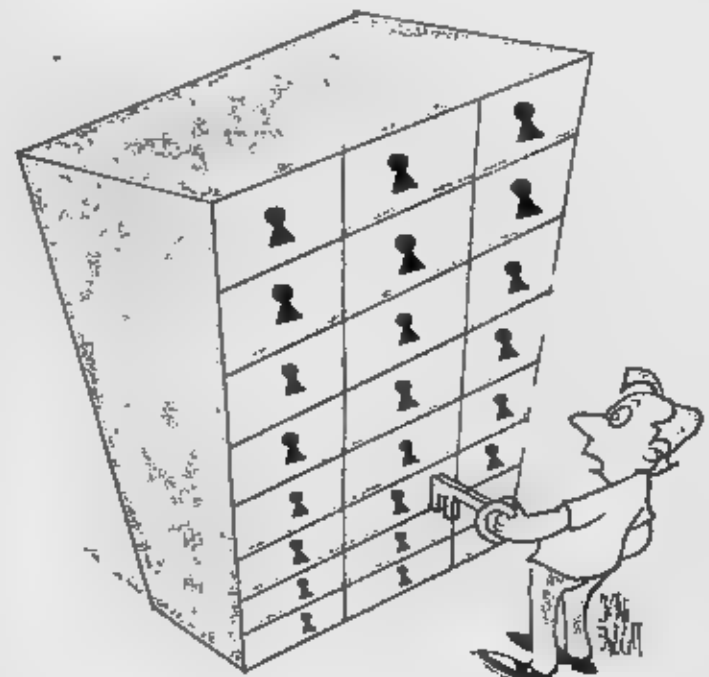


ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO SUCCAT

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The real winners

By Teresa R. Tunay

WHEREVER FAMILIES are, there will always be envy and jealousy. The workplace, being practically a second home, also has a virtual family: the managers may be regarded as the parents while the rest may fill sibling roles. Similar to a natural family, the workplace has its share of workhorses and brats—just like, I imagine, the brothers in today's Gospel. Tough luck for you if you're the loyal workhorse who has dedicated two decades of your life to that (crummy) job, only to be bypassed at promotion time by this cocky newcomer whose key talent is sucking up to the big boss.

It's the forgiving-father-elder-brother-prodigal-son scenario playing all over again, and you are the elder brother. You feel not just overlooked but worse, taken for granted, and you are envious and jealous and vengeful beyond hope though you wouldn't admit it. You feel like haranguing your boss: "I've selflessly worked for you, stood by your side, covered up for your mistakes, polished your image, given you my ideas while you grab all the credit, and you never gave me even a plaque of appreciation, and then this runcompoo who's barely two years with the company gets a plum position over me!"

How do you find justice for yourself now? Resign and drop cyanide in his coffee as you walk out? Or glimpse in this misfortune a rare opportunity to see the beauty in patiently waiting for divine justice to reveal itself? If you've been truly selfless about work and loving it, you will trust that your moment of glory will come, not a minute shorter or longer, but at that moment when it will be best for you. In this rat race, the real winners are the patient ones, because time is always on their side. (E-mail the author at teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com)

REFLECTIONS
FOR THE
WORKING SOUL

ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY MISTADES

Gospel. Lk. 15: 1-32

He said to his father in reply, "Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends."

Complaint and contentment

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

TO COMPLAIN, which Webster's Dictionary defines as "to express pain, dissatisfaction, etc.," is very common in our life and especially in the workplace. Like the elder brother in Jesus' parable of the Prodigal Son, many workers could claim, "all these years we served the company and not once did we disobey its rules, but ..." then comes the list of pains and dissatisfactions, which the workers relays to management. The management, too, will not be outdone in articulating complaints about low productivity, high cost of operating the plant, inefficiency of some workers and a host of others.

When both complaining parties focus mainly on their hurts, and the "young goat to feast on"—the good and pleasure being desired—it is difficult for everyone in the company to attain peace and harmony in the workplace. There is a need to go deeper than the feeling of pain and dissatisfaction, and even deeper than the desired benefit, in order to transform complaint to a feeling of contentment.

With a positive outlook, the worker can see more the growth of his personality in the long years of his work rather than the heavy burden of the long, boring years of work. The management, likewise, could feel more proud of the fact that the products and services of the company have benefited the larger society, rather than the amount of profit it has gained. After all, with all the reasons we have to complain, we can still rejoice and be contented, for we have a loving and merciful Father in heaven, which Jesus in today's Gospel, has shown to all of us. (E-mail the author at mfvig@skyinet.net)

sunday

INQUIRER

September 12, 2004

Magazine

PCGG Chair Haydee Yorac

Still A **Fighter** After All These Years

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento

PCGG chair Haydee Yorac has built a reputation for being scrupulously fair and just in her dealings, credit that to her small town upbringing. Growing up in Saravia (now EB Magalona) in Negros Occidental may not be among her best childhood memories, but they affected her the most, says this 2004 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Government Service.

She was "a creature of (her) surroundings," says Yorac, who was born in 1941, during a time when boys will be boys, and girls were regarded as pale facsimiles. "I was always reminded to restrain myself—not to be too smart or aggressive," she recounts. "I was told, don't show up a man or you won't get a husband. Don't be too self-assured. Never forget you're female and must be submissive."

Such warnings did not deter the plucky Yorac, the eldest of seven children of law graduate Jose Miranda and schoolteacher Josefa Bofil, from graduating at the top of her class, as valedictorian at Saravia Elementary School and high school salutatorian at the Colegio de Sta. Teresita in Silay City.

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Most good people stay away from government because of poor pay, relentless pressure and endemic corruption. Then again, there's PCGG chair and 2004 Magsaysay Awardee for Government Service Haydee Yorac, who remains undaunted even in the face of serious illness

**A Lady Director
Named Jose**

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**This Rising Sports
Star Has Her Feet
on the Ground**

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**Bringing Wine Into
Everyday Life**

by Maya Mesa Roxas, p. 6



Haydee

Her sharp mind also noted the feudal set-up in her town that people accepted without question. "Why should people go to church and automatically take the front pews if they're rich, and the back pews if they're poor?" the young Yorac asked. Being the mayor's daughter, she could sit anywhere. But the limited options and boxed roles that people resigned themselves to bothered her. She would become a lawyer, she decided early on, and see to it that justice was served at all times.

Yorac has been doing just that—as commissioner of the Commission on Elections in 1986, as head of the National Unification Committee in 1992, and as chair of the Presidential Commission on Good Government since 2001.

Rather than despair over the chronic corruption that has good people leaving government in droves, Yorac, cites her RM Award, "has founded the cynics by showing that even the most intractable problems can yield to solution when tackled with honesty and vigor."

Overdue

If anything, the Ramon Magsaysay Award is way overdue for this woman who has restored faith and confidence in government which she has served, in the words of the RM Award citation, "with exceptional integrity and rigor."

The award, says Yorac, has vindicated her work at the PCGG and "arrested the revisionist thinking" that has people dismissing the agency as an anachronism, and its efforts as piffling and insignificant. Indeed, she has recovered in two years more than what her predecessors have wrangled in the past 18 years.

"Our main goal at the PCGG is to get the cases stalled for the past 15 years moving again and resolved," says Yorac. Her appointment came just in time, she adds. "Former President Joseph Estrada, who is really pro-Marcos, had moved for the dismissal of the coco levy fund case against Industrialist and Marcos crony Danding Cojuangco." With Yorac at the helm, the PCGG managed to wrest \$683 million of the Marcos ill-gotten wealth from the Swiss banks, the biggest haul in the agency's history. During her watch, Cojuangco also lost to the government 95,304 shares in United Coconut Planters Bank that he had acquired using coco levy funds. The Sandiganbayan ruling however is not yet final, clarifies Yorac.

Her game plan at the PCGG was simple and straightforward enough. "First I recruited young talented lawyers so there's not much pressure to support a growing family. We got very good responses from 35 to 40 lawyers, considering that we can only offer P24,000 a month for part time work," says Yorac. "There was a lot of idealism, I guess, because some of them even resigned from big-time law firms. Some were my students and most of them were conscious of history. Being young, they have not handled any case for the Marcoses or Marcos cronies."

Known for being tough and uncompromising, Yorac nonetheless worked to smoothen out the strained relation-

ship between the Commission and the Solicitor General's office that started from the time of PCGG Chair Ramon Diaz and former SolGen Frank Chavez. "Now we meet regularly with SolGen Simeon Marcelo, my former student, mainly on how to move the cases forward."

Housekeeping was next. "The files and records on the Marcoses were in different offices and were in shambles. How can you work in an office that's not organized?" says Yorac. "So we did overtime work to source and organize the files, mainly through the efforts of PCGG Commissioner Vyva Aguirre, former chief librarian at UP. Now the records are computerized for easier access and reference."

While the Marcos millions and the opportunity to cobble dubious deals have proven to be the downfall of some PCGG officials before her, Yorac has always been above temptation. "If I were in it for the money, I would never have left private law practice. That's where the money is," she says.

Indeed, poor pay and relentless pressures "from the media, from one's superiors as well as politicians and other sec-

FEISTY. At a Comelec hearing in 1992



HAYDEE B. YORAC
COMMISSIONER



tors" have kept good people away from government service, says Yorac who first enlisted as a public servant in 1986, right after the Edsa revolt. She was appointed to the Commission on Human Rights but was almost immediately moved to the Comelec. "I had some kind of missionary zeal because of the new government," she recalls. "Here was a chance to change the culture in government under a new administration."

Tons of resolve

With a little creativity and tons of resolve, she managed to silence the guns and goons that have traditionally dominated Philippine elections. Says Yorac: "The Comelec job was difficult but manageable as long as you apply the law creatively. Don't go by what has happened before but don't deviate from the letter and the spirit of the law."

"For example, criminal law has not been very effective in controlling violent incidents during elections. So I went into the law books and saw that under the law, such acts could be grounds for disqualification. We made a procedure summary that says the act of the follower is considered to be the act of the leader or directed by the leader. You see, people don't care about criminal laws, but they worry about being disqualified. With that in place, we had very peaceful elections. So peaceful, in fact, that the media who went with us to Sulu complained that the elections were boring."

Yorac's rules for surviving government service are basic and simple. "Don't compromise, but don't antagonize people either. Cultivate good relations but make the rules clear."

That last worked very well, even with Lanao del Sur Gov. Ali Dimaporo, a political warlord of Muslim Mindanao. A known Marcos supporter, he had expected the Comelec to rule in favor of the new government, but was pleasantly surprised to be declared winner by its new chief "Dimaporo won the elections fair and square," says Yorac. "Our duty is to apply the law even-handedly, regardless of political affiliation." Her objectivity won her the admiration and friendship of the grizzled warlord, and fueled rumors of a romance. She shrugs them off good-naturedly.

Despite the hard work, government service has its own rewards, says Yorac. "There will always be the memory of how things can be done, how bureaucracy can be tamed." And then there's that feeling of satisfaction, she adds. "Winning the Marcos case, now that's a great feeling. It's not everyday that you feel high, working towards the direction you've set in the first place. It's not the praise; it's knowing that you've done something that makes a difference."

For sure, challenges remain, she says. The biggest, adds the irrepressible Yorac, "include getting through the records of the Marcos wealth, and litigating with people like (Marcos lawyer and former Solicitor General) Estelito Mendoza and other big law firms in Metro Manila."

For government, the biggest challenge must be finding a worthy replacement for the PCGG chair when she retires sometime soon. "I had wanted to go after the elections, but I guess I'd have to stay to put everything in place for my successor. It's up to the President to choose the next chair, but the candidate must be somebody reliable, intelligent and honest."

Might she be persuaded to stay should no such candidate be found? She shrugs. "Nobody's indispensable. The problems of society are too big for anyone."

But definitely, Yorac is a hard act to follow.

An overachiever from the get-go, she was a scholar at the UP College of Law and one of retired Supreme Court Justice Vicente Abad Santos' two *mñas bonitas*, the other being Sen. Miriam Defensor

Santiago. The two women came face to face many years later, when as a lawyer for the Free Legal Assistance Group, Yorac successfully argued the case of directors Lino Brocka and Behn Cervantes in Judge Santiago's sala. The two directors were charged with illegal assembly for joining rallies against gasoline price increases. Yorac herself was detained for three months and 12 days under similar circumstances for protesting the Vietnam war. She was hauled off to Camp Aguinaldo right after she surfaced from what she describes as "a boring seclusion" underground.

The eighth placer in the bar exams started as a researcher and went on to become professor for the next 15 years at the UP College of Law. It is a title she savors the most. Known for having blocked Imee Marcos's graduation from law school because the presidential daughter lacked some requirements, Professor Yorac became some sort of litmus test for aspiring law students. If they survive the initial interview with her, they could survive anything, it was bruited about.

In 1980, she took her MA major in International Law, minor in Anthropology of Law at the Yale University in Connecticut. Between government stints, the law professor became senior partner at the Azcuna, Yorac, Sarmiento, Arroyo and Chua Law Offices.

Senate run

She also found time to run for the Senate in 1998. Sure, politics is dirty, Yorac concurred then. "All the more reason we shouldn't leave it to the bad guys alone." She lost, and not just because she vowed not to dance the Macarena even if it cost her precious votes. "I didn't realize that you need a political party especially if you have no money," she says now.

The woman who describes herself as "a natural born anarchist and not a patriot," however admits to being an ardent admirer of "human rights lawyer Sen. Pepe Diokno, Justice JBL Reyes, Sen. Lorenzo Tanada, Supreme Court Justice Irene Cortes, Amb. Howard Dee who's still involved in the peace process and Tabang Mindanaw, and Ka Oca Santos who champions the cause of coconut farmers."

Even with retirement just around the corner, it isn't bound to be easy street for Yorac who, after surviving a stroke in January, was found to have ovarian cancer, stage 3, early this year. It's in the genes, she says. "My mother, who's in Canada, had cancer of the stomach and another sister in the US had cancer in her digestive system."

But work, she says, has a healing effect and already, she's back at work at the PCGG. "As long as I stay healthy, I should be alright, according to my oncologist," says Yorac, who has shed her unruly Medusa locks after several chemotherapy sessions. A pageboy wig has softened her features somewhat, but the fire in her eyes, that famous withering gaze, has remained.

And so has the spunk. Thoughts of mortality hardly bother her, says Yorac. "I feel very philosophical about it. I've lived long enough so I leave it entirely to God."

Doesn't she have unfinished business that she'd like to see through first? "I don't plan my life that way. Otherwise, I'd get frustrated," she says. "You see, anything can happen: accidents, sickness...you just accept that these things can happen anytime and to anybody. The universe is neutral."

It's been a life well lived, says Yorac. "I have no regrets. I'm convinced that I've given my best in every endeavor and made a difference in various stages of my life. And I feel good about that."

The feeling, no doubt, is universal. **Q**

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DANTE'S OILS Dante Castillo renders his soul life and slices of Filipino life in watercolor and oil in the ongoing exhibit, "Pure Light," at Gallery 139, Gloria 4, Ayala Center until Sept. 22. Shown above is "Give Us This Day," oil on canvas. For more of This Week, see page 7

ALL ABOUT FHM

Thanks for the feature on Mr. Eric Ramos, FHM Philippines' editor in chief ("Does This Man Have the Best Job in the Country?," *Sm*, 22 August 2004). It helped a lot to understand why the magazine is the way it is.

I am one of those trying to be open-minded about the publication. However, I still cringe whenever I catch a glimpse of it in the newsstands or even in press releases in the papers.

In the name of freedom, I just wish that Mr. Ramos would also try to see things from the point of view not of moralists but of people who earnestly want to see a better society.

No matter which way

you look at it, girls posing semi-nude, as Mr. Ramos puts it, expose the most intimate part of themselves, for the scrutiny of one and all. If this is not making them akin to an "object" I don't know what it is.

Bodies are not exposed not because stigma is attached to doing so. Rather, it is because the body deserves respect. And when a man loses respect for a woman, what is left for her?

With these large doses of skin with facial expressions that cannot be described any other way but seductive, how can we make respect stand out in relationships? And when respect is gone, so goes loyalty, chastity, etc. Putting it in the nuclear

is more graphic: "bustusan na."

We don't know the motives of those who allow themselves to be photographed—maybe they also like it. But I hope Mr. Ramos realizes the greater responsibility he has since he literally calls the shots. I earnestly hope he gives all these a thought, in the name of respect.

CHRISTINE ENRIQUEZ
UP Diliman

The website of FHM United Kingdom has a section on nude Filipino women titled "Filipino Girls." If that isn't the globalization of the Filipino woman as a sex object, then I don't know what it is.

MCS ABIS
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ATTENTION CONTRIBUTORS!

SM strives to pay our valued contributors within three weeks of publication of an article or poem. However, to facilitate preparation of your fees — and to avoid an unnecessary trip! — please give the Cashier a call at tel. no. 897-8808 local 533 to confirm if your check is ready before visiting. Many thanks and keep them coming!

A Life Accustomed to Nothing But the Best

Wandering and expecting nothing but the best in life, you have been accustomed to a lifestyle that doesn't settle for second best. Down south, you have shaped your world and that of others by your vision, talent, and accomplishments. Only a few reach the heights you dare to travel.

Bringing the first of its kind to the South, SMART Infinity in cooperation with Sony Ericsson organized an evening of elegance for the prominent families of Davao. In the Ballroom of the posh Marco Polo Hotel guests were treated to cocktails with exquisite red and white wine. The dinner that followed consisted of a five-course meal that was truly an adventure for the palate.

A night of fine dining and entertainment hosted by SMART Communications and society scribe Johnny Litton was made more meaningful by the presence of friends who have traveled near and far to come together for this exclusive night on the town.

Through intimate and exclusive gatherings like this one, we get to know you and your needs better. At home and abroad, SMART Infinity remains a pillar of the privileged few. Your dedicated Infinity Account Manager is on standby for you 24/7 to help with your queries. An International Concierge Service can bring you what you need, when and where you need it, from International SOS or tickets for events of your choice. The fully customized Infinity Access menu puts crucial information at your fingertips wherever you are, be it the middle of the fairway, or in the midst of a critical meeting away from the office. If there is anything else you want from a mobile service, we are here to listen. SMART Infinity understands how you live life to the fullest, and helps you enjoy the best it has to offer.

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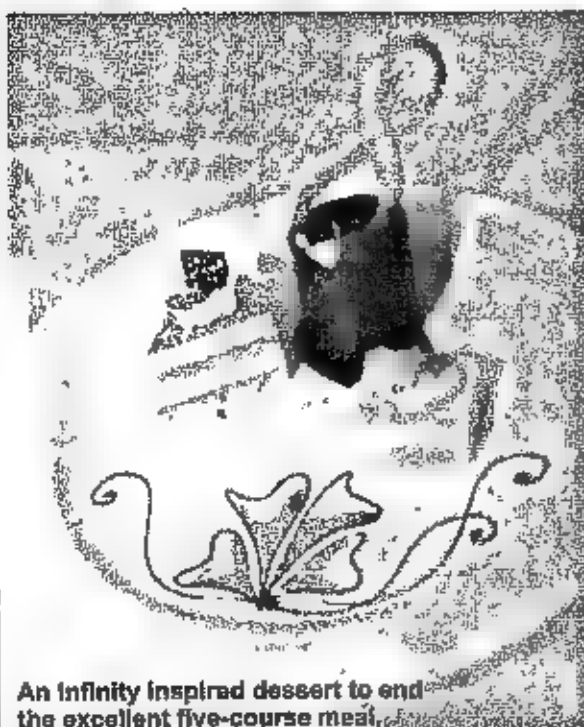
Polly Nazareno, Congressman & Mrs. Prospero Nograles & Don Ramon Garcia



Carmela Garcia, Mrs. Prospero Nograles, Boy Martinez & Nina Romualdez



A night of fine dining and entertainment at the grand Marco Polo Hotel, Davao



An Infinity inspired dessert to end the excellent five-course meal.



Leni Solidum, Dobbin Tan, & Ramon Garcia



Johnny Litton on stage with Lita Lerezap and Senia Garcia



Ruthie Garcia and Lita Lerezap



Mano & Ramon



Monica & Joey Uy



Mar & Grace Encarnacion



Wanda Torres



Francisco Lorenzo

Theater Tales

By Cora Llamas

A Lady Director Named Jose

FIRST reaction to meeting Dulaang UP artistic director Jose Estrella was a bit of a shock. After experiencing a gut-wrenching, horrific viewing of her rendition of a town that had literally gone to hell in Ramon del Valle Inclin's "Divinas Palabras," I could be forgiven for expecting a glum, hyperactive intellectual with Gothic symbols dangling from her ears. However, the prim, petite lady in jeans seemed more of a cross between the girl next door and the brainy diligent professor—except for that intangible mix of intelligence and mischief in those probing eyes.

More surprises would leap out of her productions the next few years. No two of them appeared alike. There was no trademark style, overwhelming uniform imagery, or even a choice theme that made a "Jose Estrella play" predictable. If "El Publico" was a maelstrom of stunning visuals that left the mind reeling with questions, "Ang Ligawang Ligaw" (a.k.a. "Love's Labour's Lost") was more a masterful balance of volatile emotionality than it was another teenybopper rehashing of Shakespeare's romantic comedy.

Estrella blazes trails in her own way, quietly and often inadvertently. Her professional name is an example; a few articles during her first few years mistakenly referred to her as a "he." While the confusion was irritating at times, she still prefers using it to the obviously feminine, family nickname Josie.

Becoming Jose

"My generation had the long, pang-lola names," she wryly explains the metamorphosis. Hers was Josefina. "Sometime in late grade school, games that school girls played had you called by your first two syllables. I became Jose—and it stuck. My friends and I preferred it. I've limited Josie to my parents, and brainwashed my 'pamangkins' into calling me Tita Jose."

The name change was a portent of things to come. Years later, her lawyer father would be "shocked" at his youngest child's choice of study: a major in Theater Arts at the University of the Philippines. It was a first in the family, as Jose's other siblings had taken up "more conventional courses" like commerce. The elder Estrella would have been surprised to find out that Jose's choice was more of an accident and a compromise.

"I wanted to take up Film but there was no Film Major in UP at that time. The closest thing was theater." It also helped that her then movie idols like Meryl Streep and Robert de Niro were former theater artists who endorsed the art as a "great training ground."

It certainly confirms her experience at UP: As she keeps reminding her students now, "Theater is training for life. Dulaang UP (DUP) places you in professional productions which are seen and paid for by the general public. These are not amateur theatricals that only your parents watch. There IS a standard."

Jose was broken in by DUP stalwarts Tony Mabesa and Amiel Leonardia, former mentors and now colleagues whom she still looks up to with fondness. She remembers her very first unforgettable encounter with Mabesa. "There I was backstage as the assistant stage manager. When I made a mistake laying out the props, here comes this booming voice! I was trembling. 'Who WAS this guy?'"

"My instinct has always been to admit my fault. Get it over and done with. I also don't want to be scolded with voices raised at me. On the other hand, once you apologize, Tony will still scream at you, but it will be tinged with

One of Philippine theater's few woman directors has built a reputation as a maverick and a creator of unconventional oeuvres, as her latest

'Trojan Women' proves

humor. Our relationship became better from that point on."

Late bloomer

Mabesa was also supportive, if a bit surprised at first, when Estrella in her junior year changed concentration from production management, where she was good at, to directing, where she was still a novice. "I was a late bloomer," she admits. "I had to take the chance" and tell Mabesa or remain in creative management for the rest of her life. At that time, she had not yet directed a single play. "I had to prove myself na naman."

Mabesa recommended Harold Pinter's "Birthday Party" for her directorial debut, and the preview went off without a hitch. "There is a legend that, once Tony watches a play, there would be a bloodbath. Everyone would be shaking. How many notes did you have? Did he change your blocking? Mine was relatively painless, I felt so relieved."

A Fulbright Masters of Fine Arts scholarship at Columbia University in the late 1990s "was a major turning point. At that time, I felt I had reached a plateau. I needed to get out because I was really hungry for new things." Columbia exposed her to convention-shattering material like "Publico," where the narrative twists and turns instead of following a chronology, and where characterization shifts instead of being carved in stone.

Art grants and intercultural collaborative cultural projects with institutions from Spain and Japan help source fresh material, while watching international arts festivals fuel her inspiration. How she chooses her plays remains a mystery. "There must always be an element of brutality and tenderness in the same vein."

This combination is certainly present in her latest production, Tanghalang Pilipino's "Troyanas," a modern translation of Euripides' "Trojan Women." Departing from the traditional Greek fare of defeated female royalty bemoaning their

misfortunes in war, Estrella depicts the familiar characters of Hecuba, Andromache, Cassandra, and the infamous Helen of Troy as embattled individuals fighting for meaning in a world where they had lost everything.

No battle scars

The tragedy of Troy could be the tale of hapless individuals caught as pawns in a larger chess game. "They're modern people with individual stories, like the OFWs who are caught in global wars. The play could be about anybody caught in the big time game of the super powers. Who suffers usually in war? The soldiers know what they're getting into, but the women and children are debris." Yet, far from sinking into her fate as a victim, Hecuba, the regal matriarch of defeated Troy, "has this battlery. Yes, we will go on like this, but we have to fight."

Estrella herself does not seem to feel that she has any battle scars as one of the few lady directors in theater. "I don't look

at it as sacrifice. I survive, I'm not wealthy but I have a regular job as a teacher and theater projects keep me afloat. Late nights are not a problem."

Her boyfriend of 12 years who is into the Social Sciences "provides the sanity and balance. He's cultured, and is into music, museums, and dance."

One of these days, he just might watch the short film she eventually hopes to direct. In the meantime, a musical—Estrella's first—is waiting in the wings: the family-friendly "Godspell" for a friend's community church.

"Ah, but it will be non-traditional," the director winks. "It'll be a 'Godspell' that you have not seen."

Which is what theater audiences have come to expect from an Estrella production. And that in turn could be the elusive trademark of her directorial style.

Tanghalang Pilipino's "Troyanas" runs until Sept. 26 at the CCP Call 832-3661



By Minyang Ordoñez

Life VICTORY

If you were a kid like me during the Liberation (1945-1947), the streets of Santa Cruz, Manila, were the best haunts for adventure and source of delihensiya (extra income).

World War II had just ended, and defeated Japanese soldiers were either killed or taken prisoner to be shipped back to Japan. When US military trucks ferrying Japanese prisoners passed by we hurled rocks and expletives at them.

Our family had just migrated to Manila so that my elder brothers could find jobs. My stepfather and uncles, who were listed as guerrillas, kuno or for real, in a document called roster, commuted daily to Camp Murphy to follow up the release of their backpay.

Manila still smelled of gunpowder and the smoke of burned wood as it lay in ashes, pulverized till kingdom come by American aircraft, tanks, cannons and bazookas. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who was humiliated by the Japanese, wanted his pound of flesh. Hitler had better respect for architecture and culture. He forbade the bombing of Prague, Czechoslovakia to preserve the beauty of the city.

During the liberation days, I could sense a vibrancy among Manileños who survived the murderous Japanese rampage in Singalong, Ermita and Intramuros.

Avenida Rizal, shell-shocked and pockmarked, teemed with Manilans scurrying to rebuild their lives.

American soldiers, all called Victory Joes, hawked watches on Avenida Rizal. "Jenwin! Jenwin!" (genuine), they reassured. On Carriedo were girlie shows called Atomic Bomb and Haba-Haba Joe, which were always jam-packed with wolf-whistling Victory Joes and horny Filipinos.

Our family had temporarily found shelter in the auto repair shop of my stepfather's kumpadre on O'Donnel Street. The place was dirty and messy with hundreds of mosquitoes coming out at nights to bite us.

When kids in our neighborhood on O'Donnel Street saw a Victory Joe, they ran to him and pimped, "Pampam, Joel Pampam, Joel," pointing to the drab wooden warehouse across our place. If the business was clinched the kids got tips. I never saw those pampams in broad daylight and wondered how they looked.

Instant jobs were created by the US Army's war surplus. My uncles and stepbrothers found work as hired hands in the huge surplus depots in Port Area and Grace Park.

The Americans thought that the retaking of the Philippines would be a long-drawn-out affair. When the war ended sooner, there was a big oversupply of combat vehicles, guns, ammo, canned foods, K-rations and military getup. Many civilians walked the streets in US Army fatigues and combat boots.

Since we were deprived of protein during the hungry years of the Japanese regime, we feasted daily on canned luncheon meat, corned beef hash, pork



Diana Malabay and Tess Jamias take in Tanghalang Pilipino's "Troyanas"

All in the Game
By Francis Ochoa

This Rising Sports Star Has Her Feet On the Ground

It has been a long ascent to the top for UST volleybelle Mary Jean Balse, but she may very well be the face and the future of a sport on the cusp of breaking out

At about 8:30 in the evening, the whistle blew inside the University of Santo Tomas gym and the squeaking sound of shoes against the polished hardwood came to a halt. The women's volleyball team huddled into a final prayer and one final school spirit cheer.

Mary Jean Balse, UST's newest sporting jewel, peeled herself from the group and sprinted to the locker room to change. Later, she emerged from the dugout in her white college uniform, hair drawn back into a ponytail and sweat still dotting her forehead as she sat for the interview.

"Practice was hard today. It was really tiring," sighed Balse, the Most Valuable Player of the recent Shakey's V-League women's volleyball tournament, speaking in Filipino.

Images of that last tournament still flash in Balse's mind like a recurring movie on cable TV. There, in the midst of a bolsterous audience, glaring lights and television cameras, the tall athlete found the playground she relished.

In the spotlight

"I was very happy about the tournament. At least, volleyball was in the spotlight even for a while," said the 21-year-old Commerce sophomore.

The tournament also served as her coming-out party, where she showed off her limitless talent and blended

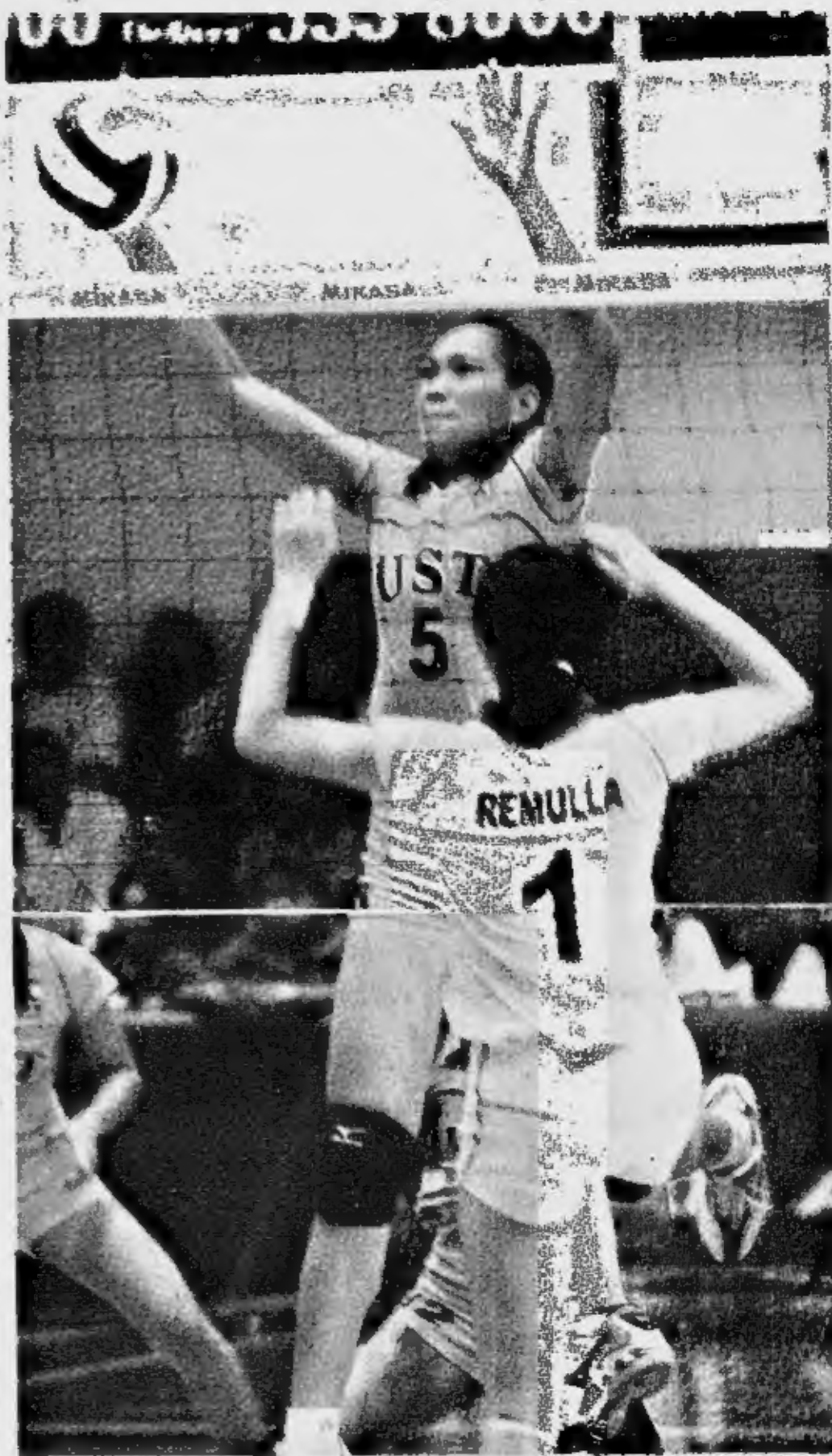
well enough with her teammates despite not having played with them before. The V-League was Balse's first stint in a UST uniform.

"She really played well," noted teammate Melissa Cruz. "She's a strong player. She blocks, spikes, sets and serves. She can do everything. That's why she's the MVP."

But it wouldn't surprise them if she went to the extent of tying her teammates' shoelaces during the games. "She's that dedicated," said Karen Coyukang, another teammate. "She's one of those we really depend on. When we're undermanned, she steps up."

Balse's dedication drew a lot of admirers during the V-League, where the provincial lass discarded her shyness to make her mark in a brand new world.

While she had to be coaxed to agree to an interview, Balse has proven that she



ERNIE U. SANTIAGO

can handle the sudden attention showered her with more aplomb and equanimity. She did not retreat into a blush when a group of fans held up a huge banner bearing her name during the championship game, nor did she croak when some folk wished her luck.

"At first, I was shy because I wasn't used to all of the attention," she said. "When someone approached me and said 'Do your best, we came all the way from Batangas just to watch you,' that made me want to prove that their trip wasn't wasted. It was really inspiring."

Despite the legion of fans, however, Balse is not exactly upbeat when it comes to her future in the game. "I plan to go abroad," she said in a half-whisper. "Here, there are really very few opportunities."

Trying circumstances

Balse, who grew up in Davao del Norte under trying circumstances, knows enough of her sport to realize that locally, it is not in the same league as basketball. The admitted struggle to keep up with school work, the uncertainty of the future and the energy she needs to summon just to keep her optimism alive about the V-League reveals a realist who understands that the future can only be delayed, not avoided, and that it is best met in foreign shores.

And she does know a lot about being in unfamiliar territory. In a way, volleyball was foreign to the leggy 5'11" lass. Perhaps the only thing she used to hate more than the sport was a toothache.

"Before, I really hated volleyball. When I was younger, I dreamt about becoming a model," she said almost sheepishly, adding that as an elementary student, she used to doodle clothes and picture herself in them. "I did not want to have muscles back then," she added.

Balse was then 12. Now the 21-year-old has other things in mind. After doing her laundry, there was the gym, where she did rapid tricep extensions with five-pound weights and bench presses before cooling down with a series of leg stretches.

"I've developed a lot of muscles," she said giggling. "I don't think I can still be a model."

Today, the clothes that fit her best are skimpy volleyball uniforms, which doesn't bother this provincial lass a bit.

"I used to play beach volleyball, where the uniforms are more revealing," she said. "If you get too self-conscious, you lose your focus," she added, recalling a teammate who used to fidget a lot because of their bikini-type uniform.

It was while playing beach volleyball that Balse was discovered by the national

team. But it was much earlier, while playing for the University of Mindanao, that she was spotted by coach August Santamaria, who lured her to the UST fold. Pedrito Manulat, the University of Mindanao coach, was reluctant to let her go.

Point of no return

"He was concerned, at first. He told me how hard life is in Manila; how athletes who come here end up not finishing their studies," said Balse.

She managed to convince Manulat to process her transcript and took a plane out of Davao into a place she knew little about. The 90-minute flight was the point of no return for Balse. Up in the air, with no one to talk to, she made a personal treaty with herself. "I told myself that I have to make good on my decision and do my best."

The flight cemented her belief that the farther one is away from home, the more the chances of having a better life. "I was sad because I left behind so many friends. I was also scared because I really had no idea what would happen once I got there."

Three weeks into her new life, Balse found out how harsh reality can be. While taking a cab from UST to the national team dormitory, she was held up and lost her few precious valuables: shoes, clothes and a cellphone.

"The holdupper pointed something at me," she recalled. "He told me to leave my bag behind. I was so scared I just did what he asked me to. But I cried so hard because I felt so helpless."

While the incident steeled her, it did not erode her easygoing nature. "She's very strong but at the same time, she's also sweet," said fellow volleybelle Lourdes Palomo. "When we, her teammates, get so tired during practice, she offers us a massage."

Said brother Reny John: "I'm really proud of my ate. She's like a parent to us. She takes care of us and every time we do something wrong, she's there to correct us."

But caring for her siblings has taken a backseat to Balse's budding volleyball career. While the UAAP crowd, which usually chases Ateneo-La Salle hoop clashes, pales in comparison with those that watched her during the V-League, Balse still hears the roar of applause and feels the glare of the bright lights when she rises to smash in another point.

When Balse hits the ground, the sound and the lights fade. And while the future remains a murky picture, she grasps firmly at the promise of another edition of the V-League, a playground where she feels at home the most.

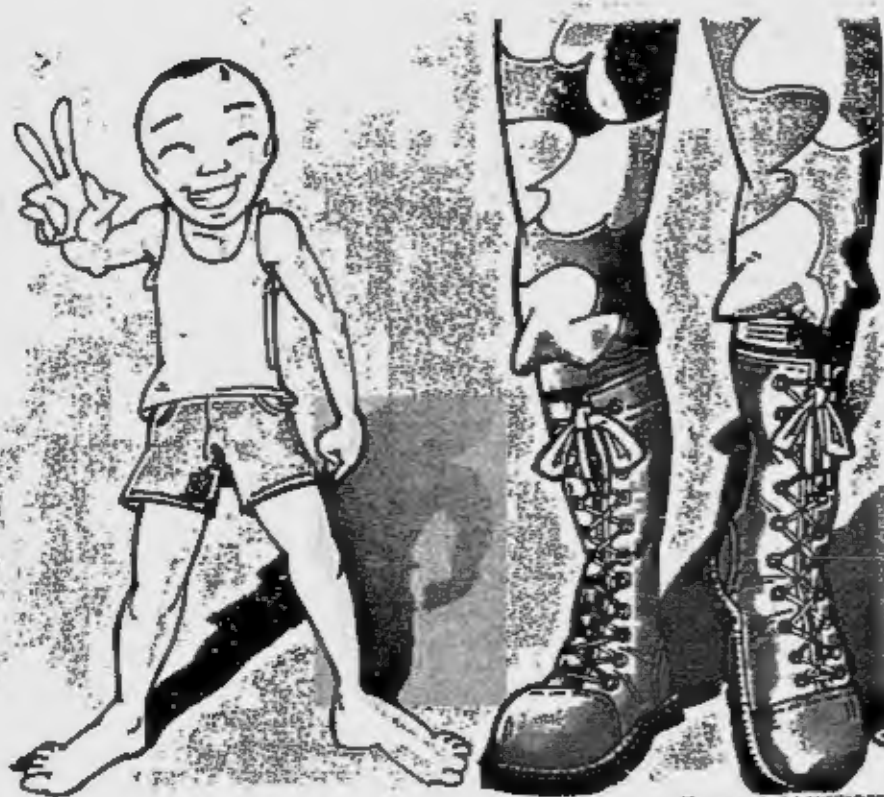


Illustration by LA MISTADES

Rosa, heartthrobs to all girls, were box-office hits.

Avenida Rizal was where delihensya money could be earned. I peddled The Manila Times in the morning and shined shoes near Espiritu Santo Church on Sundays. I also tried the *gariyo*, *tsiklet* business by the *takilya* of the Avenue Theater. I felt happy earning money.

My stepbrother Cesar was smarter than I. He gained free access to the San Lazaro Hippodrome, befriending winners so that he could ask for *balato*. He also volunteered as altar boy for German priests at Espiritu Santo Church, thereby gaining access to the kitchen rectory, where he enjoyed free breakfast of German franks, sunny-side ups, and toasted bread with butter and jam. Cesar's eats made me green with envy.

Two big emotional events signaled the end of the hurly-burly years of Liberation.

On July 4, 1947, America gave the Philippines its independence. Manila was in a festive mood, festooned all over with red, white and blue. At the Luneta before a mammoth cheering crowd led by President Manuel Rox-

as (grandfather of Mar) the American flag was lowered and the Philippine tricolor was raised. As the band played our National Anthem, I placed my right hand on my heart, and felt a lump in my throat.

Soon after, the Americans left. Hundreds of Victory Joes boarded the huge warships at Pier 7. Below were hundreds of women drowning in tears, waving hundreds of white hankies in sad farewells. From the ship's deck, hundreds of Victory Joes waved good-byes. The unusual phenomenon was called "Hanggang Pier." The crying women were later called "Hanggang Pier." Were they wives of Victory Joes or *pampam* girls? I never knew.

At that time the popular song we loved to sing went this way:

You are my sunshine, my only sunshine
You make me happy when skies are blue
You'll never know, dear, how much I love you
Please don't take my sunshine away.

Hermilio "Minyong" Ordoñez is the chairman of Publicis Manila and the creator of many classic advertising campaigns. He is a frequent speaker at marketing forums and workshops, and is the author of "Gut Feel," an Anvil publication.

Pinoy Connection

By Maya Besa Roxas

Born and raised in wine country, this Frenchman now imports and distributes French wines in the Philippines—and aims to make its appreciation a less snobbish, more universal passion



RUDY ESPERAS

Bringing Wine Into Everyday Life

HIS helps, must be the vitamins in it," Jérôme Philippon says with a wink, sipping a mimosa on the terrace of Lumière. He is feeling a bit under the weather. He has just returned from three hectic weeks through the south of France during which he logged roughly 3,500 kilometers by train and car and tasted nearly 150 wines, a choice few of which will soon be available for us to enjoy.

Jérôme is the man behind *Sommelier Selection*, importer and distributor of select French wines. He has made fast friends in the two years he's been doing business, chefs and restaurateurs especially who are enthusiastic about the wines he carries (*Uva*, *Lolo Dad's*, *Sala*, *Lumière*, *Le Soufflé*, *Hotel Intercontinental's Prince Albert*, *Blue Frog*, *Je Suis Gourmand*, *Antonio's* in Tagaytay, to name a few). And though people are by and large open-minded, he finds that some seem to have "established borders," as he puts it, about French wines—some are intimidated, others look only for "names" (luminary chateaus). He is confident, however, as slowly "more are becoming convinced."

What separates Jérôme from the growing number of wine merchants in the country today is his recognition that education is key—it has become his cause as well as his tool.

"It's a kind of philanthropy almost. I don't make a lot of money. There's a bigger need for education." He started by writing tasting notes to his wines—"No one else was doing this"—and has since been giving wine appreciation talks, hosting tastings, organizing dinners in collaboration with chefs to match foods and wines, and offering to speak about wine to restaurant staff. He'd like to coordinate more extensive wine education courses, and perhaps more wine tours to France (he took a small group to France's Southwest region last year). It is a sincere effort to acquaint people with wine in general, and chip away at the misconceptions that have prejudiced it as a snobbish, expensive habit.

But most of all, Jérôme hopes to encourage an understanding and appreciation of French wines as a vivid expression of the flavors, traditions, and culture of France.

Lured across the sea

Jérôme was born in historic Normandy, and can still picture the sprawling apple orchards across from their house and the home-churned butter of the dairy farmer next door. When he was 15 the family moved to the harbor town of La Rochelle on an inlet of the Bay of Biscay on France's west coast, where he fell under the spell of the sea and wind.

He eventually was lured across the sea and several continents besides "for adventure," he says, travelling the world from Egypt to South Africa, the Mediterranean, Australia, then Southeast Asia, on into China, taking a break to earn a master's degree in finance in Sydney. Though he returns for visits every so often, Jérôme has not lived in France for close to 15 years now. His brother, he tells, believes that the Philippon lineage has traces of Arabic ancestry—it must be so, he muses, "because I feel so nomadic, that's the way I like to live."

And yet when asked why he has chosen to make wine his business, he replies without hesitation: "To be closer to France."

France is his heart's home. You hear it in his voice, a bubbling enthusiasm laced with longing as he recalls holidays when all the family came together at his grandparents' home. His eyes light up as he tells of running after the chickens and harvesting snails, gathering mushrooms and picking asparagus for lunch, the homemade cider and crêpes.

Wine everywhere

He remembers, too, going to fetch the wine for lunch from the cellar, its thick, arched door unlocked by a large, medieval-looking key. Wine, of course, "is everywhere." Jérôme describes, with much animation, how they recycled wine bottles, carefully removing the labels ("That was my job"), sterilizing the bottles in a large cast-iron container, melting wax in tins for sealing the bottles after they had been filled with wine purchased from neighboring vineyards. Then new labels were fixed on—with milk as an adhesive. "It's much more complicated now," he smiles.

Even though he was yet too young to be allowed to drink it, wine was part of everything, inseparable in his

remembering from celebration, family, ritual and tradition.

One million hectares, it is estimated, are planted to more than a hundred grape varieties in France, yielding up to eight billion bottles a year. The country produces some of the greatest and most expensive wines; it also produces vast quantities of table wine that are consumed at bistros and dinner tables across the country, rarely exported.

In the middle is an immense variety of worthy, fairly-priced wines. It is this "middle" that is, lamentably, poorly and often inaccurately represented in the local market. *Sommelier Selection* means to fill that gap in wine shelves between the French "supermarket wines" and the grand old chateau wines accessible only to those for whom money is no object.

"We didn't even know there was a gap, until Jérôme," admits Neal Oshima, a partner in *Lumière*. "Before then, I was just getting tired of it all and spending quite a lot of money besides on wine."

Filling the gap

"The objective," Jérôme stresses, "is to introduce the identities of the French regions. There is more to wine than cabernet sauvignon and chardonnay."

Sommelier Selection's catalogue is thus notable for wines from regions perhaps lesser "known" to the local market: from the scenic Loire Valley, known for outstanding sauvignon blanc, chenin blanc, and muscadet-based white wines, and refreshing reds redolent of berries and herbs from cabernet franc, gamay and pinot noir grapes; from the Southwest, the area from the edge of the Bordeaux region to the Pyrénées mountains that boasts full-bodied reds, crisp whites, and sweet wines that taste of honey and exotic fruits.

And recent finds from Languedoc and Roussillon which stretch along the Mediterranean coast west of Provence, regions *Wine Spectator* calls "a hotbed for red values" from some of southern France's best red grapes including carignan, cinsault, mourvèdre, grenache, as well as syrah, cabernet sauvignon and merlot. *Sommelier Selection* is the exclusive distributor as well of champagne

by Ruinart, France's oldest champagne house founded in 1729.

It is a meticulously assembled catalogue. Once, maybe twice a year Jérôme trawls the French countryside for distinctive, well-crafted, good value wines that "speak of their origin." *Typicité*, the French call it, the varietal (grape) or regional (or appellation, designated growing areas) character a wine expresses. As a winemaker in the Langhe, south of Italy's Piedmont region, is quoted in *Savour Magazine* (December, 2003) as saying: "When people open my wine in New York or Hong Kong, I want them to taste the Langhe." This is what Jérôme hopes his selections are able to communicate to us of France, this sense of place and tradition. "I didn't expect to feel this strongly when I started," he confesses.

A complex art

Jérôme seeks out small independent winemakers who are respectful of their centuries-old heritage yet are attuned to the latest understanding of how things work in the vineyard and the cellar, because the winemaker's hand interprets a wine from the grape, soil and climate. He talks with them, learns from them, befriends them, establishing a relationship beyond mere buyer-and-seller. "It is an art," he says admiringly, "full of complexity and emotion."

He does not lose sight of the fundamentals, however. "But of course, we drink for taste. After all is said, the question is: do you see the difference in the bottle?" His voice lowers, as if he has a secret he suddenly is shy to share. "The answer is yes."

At a tasting to preview the new selections arriving in September, Jérôme introduced some eye-opening wines ranging from fresh, lively and approachable to earthy, brawny and intriguing, including a deeply rich and elegant *Domaine de la Grange des Pères* 2001 *Vin de Pays de l'Hérault* that stunned everyone at our table.

The answer is indeed yes. Q

Sommelier Selection is at 2320 Don Chino Rocas Ave (Pasong Tamo) Ext., Makati City, tel. no. 840-4211; e-mail jeromephilippon@mac.com.

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